THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

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TOWN.....11-8
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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 24TH APRIL.

ON SATURDAY last no less than six deputations waited upon Sir Ashley Eden for the presentation of farewell addresses. We will notice them *seriatim*:

THE BEHAR LANDHOLDERS' ASSOCIATION in their address say:

The manifold benefits which your Honor's distinguished administration has conferred upon this Province, the warm and generous sympathy which your Honor has always evinced for its people, your earnest solicitude for the advancement of their welfare, will always enshrine your memory in the grateful heart of the people of Behar.

The rapid strides which this Province has made towards material and moral improvements during the last few years, at once mark your Honor's administration of this Province as a brilliant success.

Several of those administrative changes which your Honor has introduced, and the various public works of utility which have been carried out in this Province under your Honor's order, will ever remain as standing monuments of your Honor's glorious administration of this Province.

The kind feelings which your Honor has always evinced towards the chief zemindars of the Province, and the encouragement which your Honor has given to the educated natives, and your Honor's sympathy with their wishes and aspirations, will always be remembered with gratitude.

THE PEOPLE OF BHAUGULPUR in their address write:

Under your Honor's rule, education in Behar has received liberal encouragement, railways and canals considerable development, benefiting commerce and agriculture, the administration of justice, the much-needed facility by the adoption of Hindi as the language of the Courts.

Your Honor's care for the poor and the rich has been alike. The peasantry could not claim a warmer friend than your Honor, while your Honor has been instrumental in saving some of the ancient noble families of the country from the disastrous effects of feuds and litigation by bringing about an amicable settlement of their disputes. Of the many benefits conferred on the ryots in Behar, not the least is the adjustment of their relations with Indigo Planters on a fair and equitable basis. We cannot omit to mention the kind support and help which your Honor has given to the proposed scheme of water-supply for the town of Bhaugulpore.

THE PEOPLE OF HOOGHLY in their address say:

We are highly grateful to your Honor for the warm interests your Honor has always taken in the welfare and progress of this country, which your Honor so successfully ruled for the last five years; and we fully appreciate and are deeply thankful for the attention which your Honor directed to the cause of education, the increase of commerce, and the development of agriculture in this province; the material prosperity of which has been repeatedly and favourably noticed by the Supreme Government, and remarked with satisfaction and pleasure by the people and has eventually earned for you a high place among the benefactors of this country.

THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE in its address says:

Under your judicious rule, grievances have been promptly redressed—labour has been protected. Whilst at the same time capital has been encouraged—education has been popularised—and every well-considered scheme for developing the resources of the country, or promoting the good of its inhabitants, has been sure of a favourable reception at your hands.

No subject has appeared too trivial for your attention, and no important question has come back from your scrutiny without being materially advanced towards a satisfactory solution. If any needless restriction has hampered trade, the Chamber have felt sure of your powerful aid in its removal, and you have never failed to give the Chamber the fullest opportunity for submitting their views upon all legislation affecting their interests.

It is to your appreciation of our necessities that the Port of Calcutta owes its release from many a burden, and in all the acts of your Government you have shown yourself a true, though discriminating, friend to Commerce.

THE TRADES' ASSOCIATION in its address remarks:

The period of your rule marks, as we have every ground for thinking, a new era of prosperity and progress in the Province. Having regard to the well-regulated expenditure of the finances at your Honor's disposal to the careful supervision exercised over the administration of justice, to the discriminating encouragement afforded to the cause of education, to the initiatory steps recently taken to further the policy of the Indian Government for the extension of the local self-Government in the country, and to other administrative measures of your Honor's Government—bearing in mind also your Honor's honest opposition to the partial removal of the Cotton Duties, and to the imposition of direct taxation in India under the late administration—we are fain to confess that your Honor's acts and utterances have been characterised by vigour and promptitude, and by singleness of purpose and a high sense of duty.

In the promotion of works of public utility, in Roads and Canals, in the encouragement of enterprise generally, and especially in connection with the extension of Railway communications, your Honor's desire has ever evinced the greatest interests giving thereby the best possible proof of your Honor's desire to foster and develope the trade of this Province by affording greater facilities for the more successful conduct of its operations.

We desire also to refer to the great benefit which has been conferred on the public generally, and especially on the European community of Calcutta, by the completion, during your Honor's term of office and under your Honor's direct influence and incitement, of the Himalayan Tramway to Darjeeling, and by the establishment of a European General Hospital at that Sanitarium.

We published in our last *in extenso* the public address voted at the Town Hall Meeting. What do the above addresses shew? Do they represent genuine public opinion or not?

TUESDAY, 25TH APRIL.

WE HAVE RECEIVED the following letter from Assam:

After a tour lengthened over a period of 4 months Mr. Elliott, Chief Commissioner of Assam, returned to Shillong the other day. He visited places not even seen by a Police constable or a village mondal. In his reception of the Native officers he appeared to be more condescending than a beardless Civilian or staff officer. Although the District officers had time to whitewash everything, still he had the inclination and found time to enquire into the complaints made by a native convict and to call for and examine the papers of his case. His inspection went to test the merits of an Assistant Commissioner as well as a civil court peon, and he did not fail to surprise officers in detecting at a glance ordinary arithmetical inaccuracies of the books they kept. Mr. Elliott even inspected the accounts of Executive Engineers. An experienced Pleader was heard to say that the inquiry would have been complete if he made strict enquiry in every District and Sub Divisional head quarters what each of the Pleaders had to say against the officers European or native over them. This is simply impracticable but *more is meant in this remark than would meet the ear.*

One Lambodar Das, having passed the First Art- examination applied for a teachership of the Jorhat School. It struck Mr. Elliott as to why the applicant does not prosecute his studies up to B A. standard and the boy's circumstances turned out to be the real impediment. To remedy this the Chief Commissioner at once sanctioned a scholarship of Rs. 20 for him from the Provincial educational grant to continue for two years. This fact ought not to be overlooked. It remains to be seen in what light the formation of the Assam Association is viewed by Mr. Elliott and his host of Deputies and Assistants.

The facts disclosed above shew that Mr. Elliott is not only seeing things with his own eyes, but is making a good use of them.

THE BOMBAY GAZETTE makes the following remarks on the protest of the British Indian Association against the anti-opium motion in Parliament:

The British Indian Association has acted wisely in giving expression to native opinion on the opium question. So much has been made by the anti-opium agitators in England of their solicitude for natives of the East, that it is appropriate that this discussion should be recalled from a vein of sentimentality by a representation from the natives of India. In a telegram which has just been transmitted to the Secretary of State through the Government of India, the British Indian Association makes an opportune protest against the objects of Mr. Pease's motion, and does so on the most conclusive ground—that it would do incredible injury to the finances of India without in any way benefiting the people of China. The opium question is pre-eminetly an Indian one, and whatever be its merits, it ought to be decided with strict reference to Indian opinion and Indian requirements. The anti-opium agitation, on the other hand, is conducted by men who know nothing of India, and little of the nature of the opium traffic. Their agitation is carried on in deference to a moral sentimentalism which they suppose themselves free to exercise since their own interests are not affected. There is, of course, no probability that the opium traffic will be suppressed, but the previous apathy of persons cognisant of the facts of the case has enabled Mr. Pease and his friends to embarrass the Government from time to time. The question now is not whether the opium traffic is good or bad, but whether Indian affairs are, or are not, to be conducted by men acquainted with the country. As an effort to assert the right of Indian opinion, on a question altogether Indian, we cordially approve of the step taken by the British Indian Association.

SOME HIGHLY interesting Buddhist relics have been discovered at Bassein, near Bombay. They are believed to be seventeen hundred years old.

A BOMBAY CONTEMPORARY says: "A gentleman may be seen riding about Bombay in a novel kind of vehicle. The machine is called a "cooly-cycle," and a drawing of one appeared in a recent *Graphic*. Worked by a couple of coolies, and with a gentleman seated in front, the machine travels at a good pace, easily keeping alongside a fast-trotting horse, and it appears to answer the "helm" very readily." This cooly-cycle was seen in Calcutta some time ago. It was drawn by a single cooly.

THE CITIZENS OF BOMBAY presented a farewel address to Sir Michael Westropp, the retiring Chie Justice, who, in his reply, thus dwelt on the future of Bombay:

Gentlemen, I do not profess to be a prophet, but looking at the past, and looking at the very able summary of the history of Bombay for the last 25 years, given by my friend, the Principal of the Grant Medical College, in terms so eloquent that I cannot imitate them, I think it does not require any great power of prediction to say that Bombay will soon be not only the metropolis of India, but of Asia, for it possess a people with a great genius for commerce and of untiring energy. The complete metamorphosis which Bombay has undergone, even within my own memory, speaks much for its probable future.

It is the enterprise of the people of Bombay, which has made it what it is.

WE TAKE from the London papers the following items of Parliamentary intelligence relating to India:

Mortality in the Bengal Jails.

MR. O'Donnell asked the Secretary of State for India, in the House of Commons, what steps he had taken, if any, to ascertain the responsible persons for the excess mortality in the Bengal gaols during the year of reduced dietary; and what steps, if any, he had taken to bring such persons to trial and punishment.

The Marquis of Hartington.—I have been in communication with the Government of India as to the causes of the mortality in Indian gaols and especially in those of Bengal during the year 1879, and despatches on the subject have recently been recieved from that Government, the latest having arrived by last mail. The Government of India appears to have inquired carefully into the question and in their opinion, as stated in their resolution of the 3rd of February last, "there is no reason to believe that the prisoners any where died in excess numbers during 1876 because they were insufficiently fed." The matter however, is still under the consideration of the Secretary of State in Council. (Hear, hear.)

Import Duties on Indian Products.

IN the House of Commons on March 27th Mr O'Donnell asked the Secretary of State whether in consideration of the recent abolition of Indian import duties on English cottons, the Governorment of India would urge upon the Home Government the propriety of reciprocally acting up to the principles of free trade abolishing the English import duties upon Indian tea, coffee, and other products.

The Marquis of Hartington.—I should be very glad in the interest of the British consumer as well as of the Indian producer, if the Government could remove the duties, not only on Indian but on all tea, coffee, and similar products. But I cannot admit that the fact that the Indian Government have been able to remit duties to the amount of more than £1,000,000 which pressed on the Indian consumer is any reason why I should ask the Government to reduce duties on Indian tea and coffee which are still levied on those article coming from other countries and colonies, and thus to establish a system of protection in favour of India.

Mr. O'Donnell gave notice that on an early day he would call attention to the duties levied in this country on Indian products, and also to the manner in which Chinese tea is admitted duty free into India, which Indian tea is taxed on its admission to this country.

THE GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL has issued orders to give effect to the Resolution of the Government of India regarding the administration of public treasuries. We give the following summary:

With this view it is directed that except under exceptional circumstances, the charge of these district treasuries shall be entrusted only to Uncovenanted Deputy Collectors selected for their special acquaintance with, and aptitude for, accounts, and that no officer shall be placed in charge of a district treasury who has not passed the departmental examination by the higher standard, and who has not been employed as Deputy Collector for at least three years. As regards promotion, such officers will be on the same footing as officers employed on general or magisterial duties. Young officers will be placed in charge of treasuries for not less than six weeks at a time for purposes of training; and in order to ensure a better acquaintance with treasury and revenue accounts, an examination in such accounts will form part of the test obligatory at the departmental examinations, according to both the lower and higher, standards. The Lieutenant-Governor desires that Commissioners of Divisions will at once proceed to select properly qualified Treasury Officers in the several districts of their divisions; and will report to Government the names of officers thus selected.

WEDNESDAY 26TH APRIL.

THE DEATHS in Calcutta during the week ending 15th April were 247, of which 58 were from cholera, none from small-pox, 67 from fevers, 23 from bowel complaints, 6 from accidents, 23 from asthma and pthisis, 18 from tetanus and the rest from other causes. Six children were still-born, 38 died between the ages of 15 days and under and above 15 days and under one year; 43 persons died at the age of 60 and upwards. Among non-Asiatic Christians the deaths were 10. The average of daily mortality was 35 2.

WE HAVE received from the Bengal Government a copy of its Resolution on the condition of the Hilsa Fish Traffic between Calcutta and Goalundo. From the statistics furnished by the Agent E. B. Railway to Government, it would appear that in 1879 the value of the fish imported into Calcutta was Rs.1,44,113¾, in 1880, Rs. 1,30,748-9, in 1881, Rs.28,424-2. The falling-off in the imports in 1881 is ascribed to the contamination of the water due to the steeping of jute, to the lowness of water in the river, and to the alarm caused by the steamers plying on it. But the causes mentioned being in the opinion of the Lieutenant-Governor insufficient to account for the great and sudden diminution, His Honor has directed the officers of districts bordering on the Pudma to enquire into and report to Government any facts which may come to their notice calculated to throw light on the real cause in the falling-off of the fish trade.

WE ARE indebted to an Assam correspondent for the following figures relating to the last census of that Province. The total population of the Province including the Surma valley and the hill districts is 4,881,426 of whom 2,503,703 are males and 2,377,723 females. In Sylhet and Cachar there are 2,358,434 persons of both sexes, of whom 11,54,353 are males and 11,04,081 females. In the valley districts there are 2,249,185 souls—1,165,235 males, and 1,083,947 females. These figures shew that the population of Sylhet and Cachar including the valley districts is comparatively greater than that of the whole province of Assam, which is evidently very sparsely peopled. The total population of the hill districts is estimated at 373,807,—184,112 men and 189,695 women. This estimate is believed to be low, the census of the districts could not be correctly taken owing to their disturbed condition. It appears from the census of the Khassia and Jaintia hills that the number of females far exceeds that of males—there being 88,817 females and 80,543 males.

THE RELIGIOUS statistics of the Province, says our correspondent, excluding the Hill tribes, give the Hindus at 3,062,496, Mahomedans at 1,317,022, Christians at 7,093, Buddhists at 6215, Jains at 158, Brahmos 177, and Sikhs 14. All the Sikhs as shown in the census returns live in Goalpara, whereas a good many Sikhs have settled in Lukhimpore, and some in Kamrup.

REGARDING the proportion of the followers of the several religions in different localities, as shewn by the census returns, the largest number of Mahomedans are in Sylhet, being 1,015,531, the Hindus being 949,353. In Cachar the proportion of Hindus is greater, they are as compared with Hindus 2·01 to 1. In Assam Proper the number of Mahomedans is very small. In the Garrow Hill plains the Hindus to Mahomedans are as 3 to 1, in Goalpara also the proportion is the same; in Kamrup 11 to 1; in Darrung 16 to 1; in Nowgong 20 to 1; in Sibsagur 21 to 1; and the frontier district of Lukhimpore for every Mahomedan there are as many as 26 Hindus. In Lukhimpore where the number of Mahomedans is 5824, the Buddhists prevail, their number being 4657; in Goalpara where the Mahomedans are more numerous the number of Buddhists is only 79. If number be any criterion of success missionary labour on the Khassia and Jaintia Hills has been most successful, the total number of Christians being 2107, which is nearly 1.3 of the whole Christian population of the Province. The largest number of Jains is in Goalpara 39, while in Cachar the Brahmos congregate the most.

THURSDAY, 27TH APRIL.

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—

I was lately at Furreedpore on business and stayed there for sometime. This district is one of the few places in Bengal which enjoy the unusual advantage of being situated within easy reach of rivers and streams, and yet there is not another place which suffers so much from scarcity of water especially in this season. The Pudma and the petty streams contract themselves into rivulets and some of them even cease to flow—what is observed in the beds are dirty puddles at intervals. The Pudma in its freaks has receded to a distance of about two miles from the town and necessity made inaccessible to the people thereof. There are two tanks of clear water in the town belonging to Government, one known as the Lildighee and the other Jail-pookur, but they are not available to the public and even if they were they would not meet their want. During my stay here a fire broke out in the town, and I heard such fires occur every year in this season, and what scenes I beheld. Men women and children were running about in frantic madness, and crying for water but in vain, while half the town was consumed under their eyes. This hardship of a water famine might be in a great measure mitigated, if a canal were excavated either from the Pudma or from the *Dhole-Samudra*—a beautiful lake scarcely half a mile from the town.

A CORRESPONDENT draws the attention of the Jessore authorities to the necessity of metalling the road which connects Jessore with Kessubpore. The last named place is an important centre of trade—the staple with which it deals is raw date sugar. The bazar of Kessubpore contains more than 500 shops and goods of all descriptions come here from different parts of the district. The road now in existence is a fair weather road quite impassable in the rainy season.

ANOTHER CORRESPONDENT complains that the *Oudh Punch* instead of proving a source of fun and amusement to its readers, creates heart-burning and ill-feeling by personal and malicious hits. The public have the remedy in their own hands—they need not read it.

WE LEARN from the Press Commissioner that official notification was issued by the Persian Minister for foreign affairs at Teheran on the 17th March last to the effect that the prohibition to export grain from the Persian Gulf was removed for a period of two months from that date.

AN ASSAM CORRESPONDENT writes: "There is a talk of dividing Sylhet into two districts and adding Mymensing and Tipperah to Assam. Thus altogether there will be five districts in the Surma Valley and the whole would be placed under one Commissioner. It is said Mr. Johnson, the conscientious Deputy Commissioner of Sylhet strongly protested against the contemplated partition of his district which had cost him much patient and earnest labour to bring into order. I hear he has been overruled and this has so much annoyed him that he is going to Bengal."

THE SAME CORRESPONDENT refers to the following changes in the Assam Commission:

It is rumoured that Mr. J. J. Duberg, Deputy Superintendent of Census operations in Assam will go to Darrung as Deputy Commissioner. Mr. A. C. Campbell will be transferred to Gowhatti in the room of Mr. Donnovan going on furlough; Mr. Green Shields whose services have been placed at the disposal of the Chief Commissioner of Assam will be posted to Gowhati, when Babu Prosunno Coomar Ghose will revert to his former post.

A CORRESPONDENT enquires why is the road from Mohiari to Sibpore (Batietolla) left unfinished. It was being constructed at the expense of the Coondus of Mohiari and the construction of the work had been given to Messrs. Burn & Co., who stopped at the first gate of Garden Reach from the Mohiari side. The distance from this gate to Batietolla, Sibpore, is two miles and this remains in its priestine condition, and thus a good work has been spoiled by imperfect execution.

THE SAME CORRESPONDENT thus writes with reference to works of local improvement at Andul and its surrounding villages: "What was hitherto neglected during the life-time of the late Raja of Andul has been taken in hand by his widow Ranees. They are constructing a pucca bazar at Andul and intend to construct a mettalled road from Andul to the Rajgunge Ferry a distance of nearly two miles. These works when completed will rank Andul with the important rural towns in the Hooghly District."

FRIDAY, 28TH APRIL.

WE HAVE RECEIVED from the Secretary to the Northbrook Indian Society in London a list of the subscribers in India, who have promised to contribute to its funds in response to the appeal made by the Society some months ago. From this list it appears that the amount of contributions received and promised from the Princes and Chiefs amount to Rs. 43,597-8, from Bengal Rs. 7075, from Madras Rs. 1080 and Bombay Rs. 9050. Altogether Rs. 62,607-8 can be reckoned upon, and we hope more will come in.

A MEMBER of the Ariya Somaj of Bombay has forwarded to us a full and detailed account of the Theosophical Society, its origin, plan and aims. The narrative is very interesting, but it will be quite out of place in a newspaper. We would suggest its publication in a pamphlet form for general distribution.

WE HAVE RECEIVED a copy of the correspondence lately carried on between the Rate-payers' Association of the Northern Suburbs of Calcutta and the Commissioner of the Presidency Division regarding certain points connected with the business of the North Suburban Municipality. We can give no opinion as to the reasonableness or otherwise of the complaint unless we see the original letter of the Association to which the Commissioner has replied.

OUR GOSSAIN DURGAPUR Correspondent thus writes under date the 25th instant:

Mr. Munro the Inspector General of Police has taken notice of what appeared in the *Patriot* anent the oppression of the Sub-Inspector of Bhadalish to the Chowkidars and has written two letters to the Dt. Supt. of Police, Nuddea, at whose order forwarding copies of above correspondence the Inspector of Police Kushtesh, came here and made enquiries for two days, and had the following facts, elicited that the Chowkidars were forcibly employed in surkey making, excavating a tank, thatching, preparing tattees for privy, building, grass cutting &c. Those failing to do the above, were kicked, pulled by the ears, thrashed or otherwise assaulted and abused, they were not paid for their labor. From the report of the Inspector Mr. Munro will see that matters were worse than what were originally reported to us.

WE HAVE RECEIVED a lengthy communication on the grievances of the subordinate medical service. We regret we cannot insert it *in extenso*, but we will give a few extracts, which we hope will answer the writer's purpose. In the Civil Medical Department, says our correspondent, there is a Covenanted as well as an Uncovenanted Service. The latter consists of Civil Medical officers, Assistant-Surgeon, or *Gazetted* subordinates, and Civil Hospital Assistants or non-*Gazetted* subordinates. The writer then continues:

"The first objection that I take to these arrangements is the distinction which is maintained between the first and the second Sub-Departments *i. e.* between Civil Medical Officers and Assistant Surgeons. Whatever reasons there may have been 50 years ago for entertaining a class of English medical men cheaper than the Covenanted officers to undertake the medical duties of second and third class stations, there are now certainly none, when so many medical men come out from the Indian Universities and Colleges. With the exception of the solitary promotion of an Apothecary or an Assistant Surgeon of distinguished merit or approved service now and then the sub-department of Civil Medical officers is still practically open to Englishmen only, who, whatever their professional qualifications, are admitted simply on the strength of personal influence or recommendation. Like the police service it is monopolized by the friends and relatives of the Covenanted officers.

OUR CORRESPONDENT next refers to the scale of pay which in the case of Assistant Surgeons ranges from Rs. 100 to Rs. 200 and in that of Civil Hospital Assistants from Rs. 20 to 30. These have again to undergo hard examinations for promotion from which the Civil Medical officers are exempt. The scale of pay now obtaining is the same that was fixed a century ago, while the test of qualifications has been made more severe. Even this low scale of pay has been lowered, for Assistant Surgeons and Civil Hospital Assistants, until they get substantive appointments, are kept on half pay at Rs. 50 and 10 respectively. To add to these hardships some of these officers are now saddled with a cooly's work, for in small dispensaries they have to do the work of compounders and office servants. Our correspondent recommends a reorganization of the subordinate medical service on the basis of the Subordinate Executive Service. We hope Mr. Thompson will direct his attention to this subject.

REGARDING the qualifications of the Medical graduates educated in India the writer observes:

Our College graduates receive an education general and professional, quite equal to that imparted by the London University; whenever they have had an opportunity they have competed with the best class of medical men with success. An impression to their prejudice long existed that they would fail in independent charge; this, however, can no longer be maintained in the face of stubborn facts to the contrary. As professors, teachers, civil surgeons or civil medical officers, wherever they have been trusted, they have shewn themselves equal to their duties and responsibilities. There is, besides, one special circumstance in their favor, *i.e.* their Indian diseases and their knowledge of the language and the habits of the people, which English medical officers take years to learn.

SATURDAY, 28TH APRIL.

HIS HIGHNESS the Maharaja of Kuch Behar gave an Evening Party on last Wednesday in celebration of the birth of a son and heir to him. His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor and the *elite* of Calcutta Society were present. The Maharaja we are glad to note is evincing a laudable desire to mix with the native gentry of Calcutta.

AMONGST other things what attracted notice at the above gathering was Mr. Fleury's incandescent electric light. The peculiar virtue of this light, which is Edison's invention introduced by Mr. Fleury into India, is the absence of that dazzling brilliancy which makes it trying to the eye. It appears to be well adapted to workshops and dwelling houses.

THERE WERE 212 deaths in Calcutta during the week ending 22nd April of which 52 were from cholera, 3 from small pox, 46 from fevers, 24 from bowel complaints, 4 from accidents and suicides, 14 from pthisis and asthma, 13 from convulsions, 8 from spleen diseases, 15 from tetanus and the rest from other causes. Eight children were still-born, 36 died between the ages of 15 days and under one year; 21 persons died at the age of 60 and upwards. Among non-Asiatic Christians the deaths were 8. The average of daily mortality was 30.2.

A SILCHAR CORRESPONDENT informs us that lately orders were issued to the prisoners in the Cachar Jail to take their food in apartments assigned to them according to their respective creeds, that is say all Hindus were to eat together in one and the same apartment, the Mahomedans in another, and so on. The Bengali and Munipuri Hindus and a few

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others refused to take any food for two days. At this they were allowed to take their half-day's meal at places of their own selection, but three of the prisoners, who were proved to have incited their comrades to this rescusancy, were punished with ten stripes each. We donot clearly understand our correspondent. Does the order mean that the Brahmin and the *mether* should eat together in the same room?

WE ARE GLAD to learn that Babu Kanyelal Seal has given a donation of Rs. 5,000 to the Mayo Hospital in celebration of his son's wedding.

THERE HAS BEEN an exchange of compliments between the Behar Mounted Rifles and Sir Ashley Eden. Mr. Hudson, on behalf of the corps and the planters of Behar, thus wrote to Sir Ashley:

During the five years that you have commanded us, we have learnt to appreciate your broad justice and fairness, and we gave you a hearty allegiance as our ruler and one of the leaders of our race here in India, and I merely speak the plain truth when I tell you that you will be missed and regretted by us. It is our hearty wish that you may live to see the full fruits of your fair and fearless policy towards us, our ryots and North Behar generally, and that you may crown your work in the high position you go to fill.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London April 24.—Mr. Evans, the special correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian*, who was imprisoned at Ragusa in March last for acting in collusion with the insurgents, has been released. Mr. Darwin will be buried in Westminister Abbey on Wednesday next.

Obituary.—Sir Eraskine Perry.

24.—In the House of Commons this evening Mr. Gladstone made his annual financial statement. The revenue for the past financial year amounted to £85,812 500, and the expenditure to £85,500,000. He estimated the revenue for the ensuing financial year at £85,187,500, and the expenditure at £84,625,000. It is proposed to apply the surplus to the relief of local taxation. An increase is proposed in the tax on carriages. There will be no remission of taxation. In the revenue from alcoholic liquors, there is a falling off of £732,000. He drew attention to the increase in workmen's savings. Mr. Gladstone gave notice of a Resolution forbidding mixtures in coffee with the exception of chicory. Lord Hartington, replying to a question, said proposals had been submitted to the Indian Government in order to remedy the stagnation of promotion which exist in the Cavalry Cadres.

Lord Hartington has written a letter to Mr. MacArthur stating that he will consider with great care the case of the ex-Gaikwar of Baroda. Mr. Parnell, whose parole has expired surrendered himself to-day at Kilmainham Jail.

24.—The National Bank of India pays no dividend during the past half year, and takes £24 750 from the reserve for losses arising from the unfavourable results of forward exchange operation and depreciation in Government Securities.

26.—Mr. John Freeman Morris, of the Western Circuit, has been appointed a Judge of the High Court Bombay. Mr. Stanley, the Conservative candidate has been elected for West Somerset unopposed.

27.—Great festivities are taking place at Windsor Castle. Her Majesty yesterday created the King of Netherlands Knight of the Garter. In the House of Commons last night Mr. Gladstone made settlement concerning the arrears of rent in Ireland, and announced his intention of introducing a Bill dealing with the subject during the present session.

The relations between the Government and Irish Members are becoming more friendly.

It is rumoured that Lord Dufferin will be appointed Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.

The House of Commons last night read the second time a Bill for the adoption of stringent measures for the repression of bribery and corruption at elections.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE elsewhere the receipt of a copy of Babu Sivaprosad Pyne's "Companion Geography to the Atlas for the use of schools" It is a handy manual and compresses much useful matter within a short compass.

WE HAVE received a copy of the first Report of the Jeypore Economic and Industrial Museum. It appears that the whole credit of organising the Museum belongs to Surgeon-Major Hindley. Dr. Hindley intended to make this a place for the practical education of the agriculturist and the artist, and has in a great measure succeeded in his project.

SOME OF our young countrymen have formed an Indian Circus Company, which gave a performance on the 25th instant. We are requested to publish the following opinion recorded by H. H. the Maharaja of Kuch-Behar:

I was present at one of the performances of the Indian Circus Company, I think on the whole the performance was very good considering that they only started the circus a short time ago—some of them were very good on the Horizontal bar. Their acrobatic feats were particularly good. They deserve the notice and patronage of all the people—an institution like this should not be allowed to fall to pieces for want of funds. At any rate I shall be very glad to see its success and shall further its objects as far as it lies in my power.

Woodlands, 5, Alipore Road. NRIPENDRA NARAIN BHUP, Cooch Behar.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals: 1. Records of the Geological Survey of India Vol. XV., Part I., 1882. 2. Report on the Cawnpore Experimental Farm Operations during 1881. 3. Report of the Behar Landholders' Association for 1880 and 1881. 4. First Report of the Jeypore Economic and Industrial Museum. 5. Army Circulars of 28th February and of 13th, 14th and 31st March, with Index for 1881. 6. Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, Extra number to Part I., for 1880. 7. Proceedings of the Asiatic Society of Bengal No. 2, February, 1882. 8. Paper Consumers' Circular for April, 1882, No. 174. 9. Prospectus of a scheme for the editing and translating of Hindu Religious works. By Boicunto Nath Mookerjea of Islampore, Dacca. 10. Bolati Suttee or an account of the chaste Emilie, a model of European feminine honesty, in Bengali. Published by Mahender Nath Mullick. 11. Bassuba Upahar or Indian Suttee drama in Bengali. By Shamlal Mullick. 12. Bharuti, a Bengali monthly for Boisakh 1289 B. E. 13. Bunga Dursona, Ditto No. 90. 14. Kulpana Vol. II. No. 7. 15. A scheme for the Improvement of Agriculture &c., By Lala Ram Shanker Lal. 15. Ancient History of India for the month of April 1882. 16. Administration Report on Railways in India for 1881. By Col. W. S. Trevor, V.C., R.E.

INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, Bow-Bazar Street.)

(SESSION 1882.)

LECTURE by the Very Rev. Father Lafont, S. J., C. I. E., on Thursday, the 4th May at 7½ P. M.

Subject: On Telescopes.

LECTURE by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on Friday, the 5th May at 7½ P. M.

Subject: Change of State in bodies by Heat. The Spheroidal State.

LECTURE by Babu Tara Prasanna Roy, F.C.S. F.I.C., on Saturday, the 6th May at 3 P. M.

Subject: Chlorine.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, MAY 1, 1882.

MR. RIVERS THOMPSON'S FIRST UTTERANCES.

THE public are generally curious to know the first utterances of a new Governor. These utterances they think are likely to shew which way the wind blows. Of course this is not always the case, for the first utterances of an incoming Governor are not as a rule a correct index to the current of thoughts in his mind; nevertheless they have a significance, which ought not to be overlooked. The first utterances of Mr. Thompson came forth at the Civil Service Dinner to Sir Ashley Eden at which he presided. It was a complimentary speech, and it was not expected that the speaker should unfold his policy or his views on important questions in a post-prandial oration. But there was much in what Mr. Thompson said, which deserves attention. He knew Sir Ashley Eden intimately, and was therefore in a position to form a correct estimate of his character and career, and when we know how rigidly just he himself is, we cannot believe that he meant the following to be a mere lip compliment. He said: "With the first touch of the pressure of the real activities and responsibilities of life, it is in the knowledge of those who knew Sir Ashley Eden, as he entered upon his public life in Bengal, that all the latent resources of what we call a strong will and character developed themselves in him, and that, growing with his years, they have established him as the possessor of that quickness of intelligence, that insight into character, that tact in the management of men, that penmanship of the ready writer, which is but the expression of clear and matured thought, and above all of that courage of convictions always finding utterance in frank outspokenness and prompt action, which when it came to the work of direct administration, have left indelible marks for good upon two such distinct and differing parts of the Empire as Burmah and the Lower Provinces of Bengal." Again: "But it will not be disputed by any one present that since Sir Ashley Eden asserted for himself by his abilities and acts a leading position in the service to which we belong, there has scarcely been any important measure of public policy whether local or imperial, in which his voice has not been heard, and his opinions consulted, and perhaps, gentlemen, if I were to select that feature in his character and work which has most of all distinguished and popularised his action in every department and province in which he has laboured, it would be that sturdy and fearless independence of opinion which, while it never shrank from telling the truth in behalf of the interests for which he was responsible, and of maintaining principles which were thought out, still combined with it the loyalty due to the claims of higher authority." All this was high praise, but Mr. Thompson is not given to exaggeration, and it is therefore the more valuable. He thus referred to the part which Sir Ashley Eden played in the great drama of the Indigo Revolution of 1859-60:

"If my hon'ble friend's sympathy with a helpless people and in the cause of humanity led him to this independent course in another country, the same sentiments were called into action very soon after his return to India in connection with the Indigo disturbances in Nuddea and Jessore. Those were times of violent animosities, and I am not going to recall their details, but the gravity of the contentions and strife may be measured when we remember that a Secretary to the Government of Bengal had to surrender his post to escape prosecution in the Supreme Court for libel on account of an imprudent espousal of a native pamphlet which had assailed one of the contending parties: and that a missionary, then well known in this city, was actually sent to Jail for giving circulation to that paper. In all this controversy my hon'ble friend was foremost and prominent in a determined defence of the cause of the ryot. It was a defence, moreover, which had to be taken up against all the odds of superior official opinion, and, almost single handed, the Assistant Magistrate had to fight the battle.

From that time, Sir Ashley Eden's position in the service was assured. The distinguished man, who then held the reins of the Bengal Government, Sir J. P. Grant, at once selected him for a place far above his contemporaries in the capital at Calcutta, and for some years in the Board of Revenue, and for ten years in the Bengal Secretariat, he established his reputation as a sound adviser and an able administrator. The late services of Sir Ashley Eden in Burmah and now for five years in Bengal require no more substantial monument of his energy and capacity than the facts they disclose of a well-ordered and progressive development of their great natural resources. Here in Bengal, when we look around us and in the wide advancement in every branch of the administration, the railways, roads, and canals; the establishment and efficient working of a Port Trust, the advantage to the commercial requirements of the capital of India; the beautifying of our public parks and gardens, and the recent construction of Tramways in different parts of the city, one cannot help realising the distance that separates the India of to-day, from the India of 20 years ago, and for most of these improvements or at any rate the active promotion and impetus to those material developments, the administration of Sir Ashley Eden, during the last five years, can claim the credit."

Mr. Thompson thus foreshadowed his own policy on the important question of local self-government in praising Sir Ashley Eden:

Speaking of India generally, we, as Englishmen, may claim a not unnatural pride in the fact that, with a handful of Europeans, in a population of 250 millions of natives, we have not only kept so large a portion of the human race, in peace and order, but have turned to industry and commerce, energies which might otherwise have been wasted in mutual outrage and destruction. Something also we may perhaps hope to have achieved towards setting up among States not under our immediate control a higher standard of the duties of a Government towards its subjects and of those subjects towards each other, than had before existed, and as we have accomplished such results, we find growing with these the legitimate aspirations for a wider political freedom and for an extension of a freer local self-government than we have hitherto recognised. Such changes, we have little doubt, are incumbent upon us. I am not here to deprecate or deplore the necessity for such changes, for I take it, that it is but the result of a wide and prudent statesmanship that, in the days in which we live there are natives of the country qualified, by the education we have given them, and the institutions which we have created amongst them, for taking a more active part in the government of the country. A wise State is slow to take a step which puts its future destiny out of its own power. But the gradual advance in this direction which I have indicated, and which Sir Ashley Eden's latest act seem to foreshadow, will, beyond controversy, be a measure, which, in this province, especially demands the encouragement and support of the government.

On one important point at least we see what Mr. Thompson's views are. And as far as we have been able to study his career, we believe

that his general policy will be saturated with the same liberal spirit.

THE WHITE ACT.

IN our issue of the 20th February last we published an article under the above head, drawing attention to the invidious distinction made between Her Majesty's British-born and Indian subjects in criminal trials. It affords us great pleasure to learn that we have not written in vain. Lord Ripon has resolved to issue a circular to the Local Governments, inviting their opinion on the propriety of legislation on the subject. The credit of originating the question, we must confess, belongs to Mr. B. L. Gupta, our Presidency Magistrate. He moved the Bengal Government and the Native Members of the Council. The Bengal Government placed itself in communication with the late Law Member, who declined to take any action in the matter at that late hour. The Hon'ble the Maharaja Jotindra Mohun Tagore was in earnest, and went up to the head of the Government. He told Lord Ripon that he should like to move a motion on the subject, but he did not venture to do so without knowing his Lordship's views. Lord Ripon fully sympathized with the opinion expressed by the Maharaja, but said that he would take time, and consult the local Governments. His Lordship promised to take up the subject on arrival at Simla, and to bring in a Bill next winter. True to his word his Lordship, we are glad to learn, has ordered the issue of a circular to the local Governments on the subject, and intends to introduce a Bill in the next Calcutta session of the Council.

The proposed legislation will be of a limited scope. It will seek to remove the present anomaly of the white civilian being competent to try a white man in a criminal case and the black civilian being disqualified from doing so, though the latter may be the District Magistrate, and the former his subordinate. This is a distinction of color in the eye of the law, which is a disgrace to the British Government. When the question was discussed in 1872 Sir Barrow Ellis said: "In making the invidious distinction which was now proposed, if we excluded any Justice of the Peace from the exercise of certain powers, we were really casting a stigma on the whole educated Native population of India. He might also urge that there would be considerable inconvenience in having such a distinction. But he preferred to put it on the broad ground, that if you have Native Covenanted Civil servants, you ought not to bar them from exercising the powers of a Civil Servant, among which powers is the jurisdiction of a Justice of the Peace over European British subjects. By Act II of 1869, certain Natives might be appointed Justices of the Peace, and on which gound, he will ask, was it proposed to restrict their powers as Justice of the Peace?" Lord Napier of Magdala remarked: "The Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service having been to Europe, having become acquainted with European feelings, ideas and customs, and having qualified themselves to take their places with the European feelings, ideas and customs, and having qualified themselves to take their places with the European Members of the Civil Service, His Excellency would frankly accept them as real members of Covenanted Civil Service, and allow them to exercise all the functions which the European members exercised." Sir Richard Temple was of opinion that "the inference was undeniable that if the Natives were eligible to all the great offices of the administration, it seemed improper and unreasonable to say that they should not sit as Judges over Europeans in the Mofussil for offences of the trivial nature over which it was proposed to give Justices of the Peace cognizance." But the Viceroy spoke out the strongest of all. His Excellency said that "he thought that the restriction would embody a stigma on the Native Community in general. It was equivalent to stating that under no circumstances, as far as the administration of the law was concerned, could the Native attain to that degree of impartiality and courage which would justify the Government in reposing in his hands the power of trying European British subjects. He thought that by the restriction we in effect said to the European—"You are not to be tried in the Mofussil by the Agency by which you are tried in the High Courts and in the Courts of the Magistrates in the Presidency towns, with the general approval and sanction of the European and Native Communities." It was saying in effect that the Natives who had attained to the position of a Sessions Judge, was not competent to try a European British subject, but he might try him when he became a Judge of the High Court and sat beside a European Judge. His Excellency could not but help thinking that there was practically no greater disparity in permitting these Native Civil servants to try a European British subject, but he might try him when he became a Judge, than in permitting Native Justices in the Presidency Towns to try him. There appeared to His Excellency to be no such broad distinction whatever between the condition of society and of public opinion in this respect between the Presidency towns and the Mofussil. There were now a great number of public spirited men and a great deal of public spirit all over the Province. Communications by rail, the dissemination of newspaper both in English and the Vernacular, and a great variety of other circumstances had destroyed that distinction which formerly existed between the Presidency towns and the Mofussil. His Excellency did not himself consider that there was the slightest possibility that in the rare case of a Civil and Sessions Judge trying a European British subject in the Mofussil there would be an abuse of justice." Nevertheless the motion was lost because the majority of the Council were against it.

We hope a better fate awaits the present move. The times have changed, and we do not think the European community still cherish the old race-feeling on the subject. They are reconciled to the trial of European British subjects by Native Magistrates in the Presidency capitals, and what is there in the atmosphere in the Mofussil that the Native Civilian Magistrate, trained in England, should be deemed incompetent to hold such a trial? The distinction is most invidious and unjust. It casts a most undeserving slur upon the Native Civilian Magistrate. In the Council of the Viceroy we believe there is no difference of opinion. His Excellency is himself quite staunch on the subject. As a statesman of the Liberal school he cannot bear the idea of an inequality in the eye of the law, based on invidious distinctions of color and creed, and we believe His Excellency is really in earnest to redress that inequality —to abolish that distinction altogether. We are not a little gratified to learn that the sympathies of our new Lieutenant-Governor run in the same direction. Mr. Thompson, if we are informed aright, thinks that the time has arrived that the present anomaly should be done away with. He does not see any reason why a Native Civilian, who is fit to be entrusted with the destiny of a district, should be considered unfit to hold a preliminary trial of a European criminal, particularly when his subordinate, a Joint, will be competent to hold such a trial. We hope the other local Governments will strengthen the hands of the Viceroy.

We only regret that the present move is so limited in its scope. If the present inequality in the eye of the law is unjust and indefensible, surely it ought to be removed altogether. It cannot be reasonable or fair to stop short with the Native Civilian Magistrate. What could for instance be more anomalous than this that Newab Abdul Lutief as a Presidency Magistrate should have been competent to try a European British subject and give him two years' imprisonment, but sitting in the Sealdah Court he is not considered fit to exercise that power. We hope His Excellency the Viceroy will take the whole question into consideration, and not deal with it piece-meal.

BY WHOM IS INDIA GOVERNED?

THIS question Mr. John Dacosta, the well-khown earnest worker in the cause of Indian reform, undertook to answer in an able paper recently read before the East India Association, London. The importance of the subject cannot be exaggerated. That it is necessary to effect some material modifications in the present system of the Government of India is generally recognised by all right-thinking persons who have carefully studied her affairs since the transfer of her Government from the Company to the Crown. It cannot be denied that when this radical change was made, many safeguards for the good administration of India were swept away and the substitutes which took their place have proved to be comparatively ineffective. The transfer of the controlling power from the Court of Directors, a small body with special knowledge of the country, to a Secretary of State who has, as a rule, had no opportunity of studying Indian affairs, effected a fundamental change alike in central and in the local administration, the effects of which should be carefully watched. The system of Government which was adopted at the time the transfer took place has not been materially modified since its introduction; nor has any inquiry been instituted to ascertain how far the machinery then established has served its intended purposes. It was impossible to foresee many of the defects of the present system when it was first introduced; but more than twenty years have since elapsed, an enquiry into the working of that system has become absolutely necessary.

Mr. Dacosta shows that the results of the present system of governing India have in some respects been most unsatisfactory. The system is based on two Acts of Parliament—Act 106 of of 1858 and Act 67 of 1861. The former Act vested in the Secretary of State all the powers which had previously been exercised by the East India Company and the Board of Control; and the latter Act constituted the Executive and Legislative Councils of India. The Act of 1858 laid down that except on urgent occasions or in special cases requiring great secrecy, the Secretary of State should consult the Council of India before passing any order, and be guided by its opinion in every case involving the expenditure of Indian revenue. "The history of the last fifteen years," says Mr. Dacosta, "records instances of Indian Secretaries of State having, under a literal interpretation of the Acts, omitted to consult the *Council of India* in cases where, by the spirit of those Acts, they were bound to consult it; support the Governor-General in overruling his Council in ordinary matters, under a clause intended only for extraordinary cases of urgency; and, by directing definite process of Legislative Council, irrespective of the opinion entertained by that Council, deprived the Indian Legislature of its essential and most valuable attribute as a deliberate body. The Duke of Argyll's action in 1873, in sending, under the urgency clause, an order respecting a retirement scheme, and Lord Salisbury's action in the more recent matter of abolishing the duty on Manchester cottons, are cases in point. Such action has generally been taken either under pressure from Parliament or in furtherance of some Imperial policy pursued by the cabinet to which the Indian Secretary belonged; and here it might perhaps not unreasonably be asked, how far a Secretary of State can be expected to risk the safety of his cabinet, or even to disregard its political aims, in the defence of Indian interests for which he is accountable only to Parliament—that is, to the very authority by whom their sacrifice is required or sanctioned. In the answer to that question, however, lie the fate of our greatest dependency and the solution of problems touching the happiness of 200,000,000 of our fellow-subjects." The danger which this state of things involves is obvious. An Indian proverb says that if he who is the preserver should become the destroyer, there is no hope. A Secretary of State can never be expected to risk the safety of his cabinet in defending Indian interests. These interests will always be subordinate to those of the party to which he belongs; experience of the past has proved this to demonstration. The members of the India Council whom the authors of the Act of 1858 intended to be constitutional and responsible advisers of the Secretary of State, have been reduced to nonentities. The character of their office has been greatly changed. By the Act of 1858 they were to hold their offices on the same permanent tenure as an English Judge; but their independent position was to a great extent weakened

when a fundamental change in the tenure of their office was effected by the Duke of Argyll. It is now as clear as day-light that the Act of 1858 has failed to secure the due exercise of the important functions which it assigned to the Council of India. Nor has the working of the Indian Councils Act of 1861 been productive of better results. This Act, as Mr. Dacosta points out, "secures an official majority under all circumstances, by allowing the Government to reduce the number of non-official members to three. Such members, moreover, being appointed by the Government for a limited period, and re-elected only at its pleasure, cannot be expected to assert, in the expression of their opinions, the degree of independence essential to the discharge of their duties. Further more, the power of making rules for the conduct of business in the Legislative Council being vested, not in the Council, but in the Government, the presence of non-official members may be dispensed with on any occasion when a measure is to be passed to which they are opposed, simply by the Council being held on such occasion at Simla, where non-official members cannot afford." It is no matter for wonder that legislation enacted under such conditions has failed to be in harmony with the wants and feelings of the people and resulted frequently in unforeseen complications and difficulties. Mr. Dacosta shows that a number of extraordinary enactments have been passed of late years, all tending to increase the power and to lessen the responsibility of the Executive. The new Civil and Criminal Procedure Codes, the Bombay Revenue Jurisdiction Act, the Deccan Agriculturists' Relief Act, the North-West Revenue and Rent Acts and the Bengal and Behar Rent Bills and other similar measures render clear the dangerous lines on which the Indian Legislature is proceeding. The Indian Legislative Council has been aptly called the "Executive Legislature."

What has been said above clearly shows that the results of the system of administration under which India is governed have in some respects been very unsatisfactory and that a reform of that system is urgently necessary. The machinery which the Acts of 1858 and 1861 established for the Government of India has not served its intended purposes. The question is, how the evil is to be remedied, and what is to be done "to secure a more economical administration of the finances of India, and greater consideration in her Legislature for the wants and feelings of her inhabitants." Mr. Dacosta observes:—"Merely to rectify the error which left the *Council of India* without the means of performing its important functions would be of little avail, seeing that a greater error still was committed when the duty of protecting Indian interests was assigned to a body holding no stake in the country, and ill-suited, by the position of its members as Government servants, to assert the degree of independence necessary for the protection of the vast interests committed to its care. What is obviously needed is the influence of a body intimately acquainted with the wants, feelings, and opinions of the people of India; and, at the same time, deeply and personally interested in their well-being. The members of such a body should be men who could unhesitatingly be accepted as representatives of the people—a condition which is not fulfilled even by the members of the Legislative Council in India. * * * * These considerations lead to the conclusion that a remedy for some of the most serious errors committed in 1858 might be found in reorganization of the Legislative Council, such as would prepare the way for introducing in it a true and substantial representation of the people for whom that Council has to legislate, and would render it impossible for its decisions to be dictated by the executive, as at present. In short, the successful administration of India seems to require a reasonable amount of self-government and a corresponding modification in the all-absorbing power now centred in an authority stationed thousands of miles from India, unacquainted with the country and its inhabitants and subject to the influences of a Cabinet and a Parliament, whose interests are frequently at variance with those of India." We need hardly say that we subscribe to almost every word in the above passage. Mr. Dacosta points out that Lord Ripon has himself come to a similar conclusion and expressed his conviction that it is through self-government that the administration of India can be improved. The existing municipalities and district committees, for obvious reasons, are shams. The members of those bodies are appointed by the Executive, and not elected by the people, and their president being the district officer, who is a little Czar within his jurisdiction, the non-official members dare not express opinions distasteful to him. If the present state of things should be allowed to continue, Lord Ripon's noble scheme, as we have over and over again remarked in these columns, will be a failure. Mr. Dacosta observes that the development of local self-government would be greatly facilitated by the introduction of the elective system, and by leaving the municipalities and district committees to elect their own Chairman. He distinctly says that this must be done before success can be looked for from the endeavours of the present Viceroy to give India the inestimable benefits of local self-government. The principle could then be applied to the Legislative Council by the election of its non-official members being entrusted to the popularly elected municipalities. Mr. Dacosta further holds that the Legislative Council should be interdicted from legislating at a distance from the metropolis. In the development of local self-government then, is to be sought a remedy for the deficiencies of the present system of governing India; but the measures which the local Governments have been taking in order to give effect to the views of Lord Ripon's Government in this direction clearly show that the whole thing will be an utter failure.

THE NORTH-WEST JAILS.

DR. WALKER'S report on the administration of the Jail Department of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh for 1881 is one of the most satisfactory official documents we have for some time seen. The gross prison population during the past year was less by 2,476 individuals than during 1880, and fell below the numbers received into jail during 1878 by 89,299. The daily average number of prisoners in confinement also fell from 29,175 to 28,065. This latter number was composed of convicts, under-trial prisoners, and civil prisoners. "These figures," observes the Lieutenant-Governor in reviewing Dr. Walker's report, "call for no comment, as they tell their own tale. The distress which prevailed in 1877 and 1878 was the cause of the abnormally large numbers of jail inmates in those years. Crime has now fallen to its normal level and even below that of 1876." It is satisfactory to note that the use of what is called the "Budmashi" sections of the Criminal Procedure Code was somewhat less rigorous in the United Provinces. During the past year 1,839 prisoners were committed to jail, failing to find security, for periods varying from six months to three years as compared with 2,312 committed in 1880. The Inspector-General brings to notice that in the Gonda Jail seven men have been locked up for three years failing to find security, and in the Bahraich district ten men for periods of three years. But the Lieutenant-Governor makes light of this matter. His Honor tells the Inspector-General that the men referred to by him as having been locked up for three years in default of giving security for good behaviour were probably members of the Barwar tribe of habitual criminals. It is, however, something that a reference regarding these men will be made to the Deputy Commissioners of Gonda and Bahraich. Year after year Dr. Walker has drawn the Lieutenant-Governor's attention to the administration of the "Badmashi" sections of the Criminal Procedure Code in the United Provinces; but Sir George Couper did not condescend to make an equiry into the subject. We hope Sir Alfred Lyall will see the desirability of following the example set by Sir Ashley Eden and of satisfying himself that these sections have not been turned into an engine of oppression at the hands of an unscrupulous Police. The juvenile population was 277 only, and Dr. Walker gives a satisfactory account of their discipline and education in the central prisons. "With regard to the results of education in the jails under my care," writes the Inspector-General, "I have little that is satisfactory to report, except with respect to the boys. Many of them are apt scholars and show considerable progress; but the results in the case of prisoners who have grown up to manhood utterly illiterate are disheartening. It is a labour of Hercules to stir up their minds even to the recognition of the letters of the alphabet." The conduct of the convicts during the year was, on the whole, good. The combined percentage of punishments to total population fell from 11·7 to 9·8. "It is satisfactory to note," says Dr. Walker, "that the use of the cane has diminished. Whipping formed only 47 per cent of the total punishments instead of 54 per cent. in the previous year. The want of cells in many jails must keep this proportion for some time at a higher figure than I desire to see it." The decrease in the number of flogging is satisfactory; but there is still room for further diminution in the case of the cane. There were, as usual, great differences in the total number of punishments inflicted in each jail, the percentages ranging from 1 per cent. in the Banda District to 30 per cent. in the Bara Banki Jail. "It is hard to believe," remarks the Lieutenant-Governor, "that such discrepancies are due to the idiosyncracies of the convicts, or to avoid the impression that they are due to different modes of record or to the idiosyncracies of those who have the management of the prisoners." We think the differences in the number of punishments inflicted in jails are due to the idiosyncracies of Jail Superintendents.

The health of the prisoners during the past year was good. The deaths from all causes numbered 668 against 820 in the previous year. Though there was a small increase in the percentage of sick the mortality fell 5 per thousand of the average strength. We agree with Dr. Walker in thinking that a death-rate of twenty-three per thousand of average strength of the convict population is good evidence of fair general health amongst the free population as well as of generally sound sanitary conditions in the prisons. But in some of the jails the death-rate was very high. The Gorukhpore District Jail had a death-rate of 139 per thousand, the Mirzapore Jail a death-rate of 70 per thousand and the Meerut Central Prison a death-rate of 40 per thousand. The Lieutenant-Governor feels confident that the condition of these notoriously unhealty jails will continue to receive Dr. Walker's earnest attention, both in discovering the causes of unhealthiness, and, if possible, in remedying them. His Honor observes:—"Government is bound to do all in its power to remove the evil. But before heroic measures are adopted, assurance must be obtained that the causes of unhealthiness are not temporary and incidental also to the surrounding outside population." The unhealthiness of the Meerut Central Prison and the Gorukhpore District Jail cannot be attributed to temporary causes. The epidemic of autumnal malarious fever recurs annually in the Meerut Central Prison with the usual fatal results. It is worthy of note that while only 14 per thousand of the average strength died within the first six months of their residence in the prison, 36 per thousand died within the second six months, and 82 per thousand between the twelfth and twenty-fourth month of residence. The significance of this fact is obvious. In the Gorukhpore District Jail up to the end of June there were only ten deaths in an average population of about 606. In July the rains fell and sickness began and increased rapidly. The sickness in the jail was accompanied by similar sickness amongst the surrounding free population. The unhealthiness of these two jails was not, therefore, due to temporary causes. In the Mirzapore District though several of the deaths had no connection with jail causes, still the jail is an unhealthy one. The Inspector-General points out that its position is bad and that the inmates suffer from "site-crowding," which Dr. Walker thinks is as pernicious to the health of the prisoners as "ward-crowding." On the sanitary condition of the jails under his care the Inspector-General makes the following remarks: "The prevalence of dysentery, diarrhœa, asthœnic pneumonia,

and cases of sloughing ulcer still warn us that the sanitary conditions under which the prisoners in certain jails live are not perfect. The medical officers in charge must feel as I do that the occurrences of such cases is a stigma upon jail management, and one dare not rest satisfied until the abnormal death-rate in every jail can be proved to arise solely from the reception of old broken-down 'poor-house' cases and not from disease produced in strong men in the prime of life *simply because they have become inmates of a jail.*" These remarks show that Dr. Walker, as Inspector-General of Prisons, fully realises the high responsibilities of his office and is the right man in the right place. In the matter of diet the change made during the year was the withdrawal of the order prescribing short diet on Sundays to habitual criminals in central prisons. Dr. Walker states that experience showed that under the hard labour and strict discipline of the central prisons, the reduction of diet even for one day a week was attended by a falling-off in weight and lowered condition—a fact which should be carefully noted.

The total cost of the Department during the past year, including general superintendence, was Rs. 14,17,077 and the actual proceeds of convict labour amounted to Rs. 5,09,397, making the net cost Rs. 9,07,680. The average cost per head of jail population diminished from Rs. 37¼ to Rs. 36. This compares favourably with the average cost per head in the other provinces. Well might the Lieutenant-Governor observe that judged by the figures for the jails in other provinces quoted by Dr. Walker, the prisons in the United Provinces are unsurpassed in economical management. This result is chiefly owing to the care and watchfulness which Dr. Walker bestows upon the details of the working of his Department. During the past year the industrial labour of the prisoners realized a gross profit of Rs. 2,12,000 as compared with Rs. 2,40,972 during the previous year, while the value of the convict labour employed on the erection of new buildings was estimated at Rs. 15,194. No jail factory was worked during the year at a loss. As usual, the Agra Central Prison yielded the largest profit. It appears that a profit of Rs. 29-13-11 per cent., was earned on the capital employed in the jail factories. Dr. Walker writes:—"Were it feasible and consistent with jail discipline and management to hand over jail labour to outside manufacturers, or to employ our prisoners on labour which demanded little or no expenditure as plant and raw material, the percentage of profit on the capital engaged would be proportionately increased; but driven as we are to act as dealers as well as suppliers of labour, a considerable amount of capital must always be locked up in raw material and manufactured articles as well as in machinery." It must be said to the credit of Dr. Walker that he has certainly endeavoured to employ the most simple and inexpensive machinery possible to carry on the works with. He records his opinion that the half-hearted use made of convict labour for State purposes is the only reason why the North-West convict establishments are not self-supporting. He regrets this in the interests of the State, as well as a jail officer, because it throws difficulties in the way of the constant employment of the convicts on industrial labour, at which in some form or other long term convicts must be employed. The Lieutenant-Governor, we are glad to see, shares in the regret expressed by the Inspector-General. "He can only hope," says the Government review, "that the policy which has taken practical form in the remission of taxation to the masses of the Indian population will be continued; and that in the interests of the same mass of tax-payers, as distinguished from individuals among them or elsewhere, the labour of the convicts whom the Indian tax-payer has to support may be fully utilized for State purposes" We fully agree in this view.

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT IN THE UNITED PROVINCES.

III.

IT will be in the recollection of the reader that the Government of India's great decentralization circular of 30th September last indicated that the expenditure on Education, Medical Charity and Local Public Works might with advantage be handed over to local management, and declared that if Provincial Governments suggested the transfer of other heads of expenditure to local bodies, their representations would be taken into favourable consideration. The Government of the United Provinces, in dealing with the question of the extension of local self-government, could not be expected to go a single step beyond the direct orders of the Supreme Government. The North-Western Secretariat has announced its determination to apply the new policy to the three heads of expenditure indicated by the Government of India's Circular mentioned above. In our previous article on this subject we noticed the Resolution of the North-West Government dealing with the transfer to Local Committees (district and municipal) of educational institutions. We now proceed to discuss the orders which refer to the control to be exercised by Committees over hospitals and dispensaries and local public works.

The hospitals and dispensaries in the United Provinces have been hitherto managed practically by the Civil Surgeon of the District acting under the orders of the Provincial Surgeon-General. A dispensary committee has no doubt existed in each district, but the members of that Committee were respectable non-entities and nothing more. Under the new arrangement there will be no special Medical Committee. The professional element in the management of hospitals and dispensaries, like the tuitional element in schools, will entirely rest with the departmental officers; but local Committees are expected to interest themselves and take part in the administrative and financial control of these institutions. "It is not so easy, however," observes the Lieutenant-Governor, "to decide where the professional control which is essential ought to begin and end, and where the functions of the committees should commence. Obviously the pure professional staff attached to dispensaries, consisting in these Provinces, of Assistant Surgeons, Hospital Assistants, and Native Doctors, must remain under professional management and be retained for the present on a general list." All matters relating to their appointment, transfer, promotion and dismissal will rest with the head of the Department and the Government. But the Lieutenant-Governer is anxious to give committees a voice in the matter, and His Honor, accordingly, declares "that, except in really emergent cases, which will be of rare occurrence, no action shall be taken in the appointment or renewal of any such officials without a reference to the committee, to whose wishes full consideration will always be given." The rest of the establishment will be under the entire control of the committee. "If, however," says the Resolution, "the Civil Surgeon be of opinion that the action of any committee of which he is a member is in regard to the employment of compounders and dressers such as may be detrimental to the dispensary interests he will be at liberty to refer the matter through the committee to the head of his department." No existing dispensary shall be closed, and no new dispensary shall be opened, without reference to the Surgeon-General. The Vaccination Department will also be placed under the control of local committees. Vaccinators employed within municipal limits will be subordinate to the municipal committees; while district vaccinators and the district superintendents of vaccination will be subordinate to the district committees? All the heads of expenditure connected with dispensary management, with the exception of European medicine and surgical instruments, will be under the control of the committees. Indents for European drugs and new instruments will be submitted to the Surgeon-General and no new extra supply will be passed by him except on good cause shown. The Lieutenant-Governor is of opinion that municipal funds should contribute largely to the support of extra-municipal dispensaries and hospitals. To the maintenance of other hospitals and dispensaries a portion of the local cess will be devoted. We do not understand why the local committees should not have any control over the purchase of European medicines and instruments. This is an important item of despensary expenditure, and upon its proper application mainly depends the usefulness of these institutions. Though a committee may have funds at their disposal and desire to devote the same to the purchase of European drugs, they will not be allowed to do so without first obtaining the sanction of the head of the Medical Department, and the Surgeon General is plainly told that he will not pass any extra supply without good cause being shown. The Lieutenant-Governor says that "each district has now an allowance based on the average number of in-door patients" The present allowance is a mere trifle. The *Pioneer* pertinenly remarks:—"To such an extent has the supply of European medicines to dispensaries been reduced that it is well knowu the people often say, it is no good resorting to the dispensaries for treatment as the medicines they receive do them no good." We need hardly say that we subscribe to every word in the passage just quoted. We know that Dispensary Committees and Civil Surgeons have worked hard to collect funds for their medical charities; but they are not allowed to spend the money on European drugs and new surgical ins-instruments. And this unsatisfactory state of things is to be continued under the new arrangement. If local committees cannot be trusted to spend the funds at their disposal, the very sinews by which the work of those institutions is to be carried on, they might not exist at all. If Local Committees are to be hampered in the management of the business entrusted to them with unnecessary and vexatious regulations in such matters, we do not understand what benefit the public will derive from the new policy.

We come now to the question of the extension of the decentralization policy to the Public Works Department. The North-West Government frankly admits that under existing arrangements, district committees in the United Provinces have practically had little influence or authority in local matters appertaining to thePublic Works Department. Under the new arrangements the jurisdiction of the District Committee will extend to the maintenance of the following classes of works, exclusive of such as may be under municipal control:—(a) all roads of the second, third and fourth classes, and such first class roads as are not reserved for departmental management; (b) all ferries or boat-bridges, except such as may be specially reserved for provincial management; (c) all miscellaneous public improvements, except such as are specially reserved for provincial management; (d) all accommodation for travellers and inspection-houses in roads; (e) all educational buildings up to, and inclusive of zilla schools; (f) all medical buildings; (g) all strangers' homes, work-houses, poor-houses. The District Engineer and his whole staff will be placed at the disposal of the District Committee, and will be regarded as directly subordinate to that committee. Each committee will get a grant for petty original works. This grant will be from Rs. 5000 to Rs. 3000 per district according to classification. Oudh districts which were not included in that scheme will be considered as falling within the latter category. The money thus provided will be expended on local works at the unfettered discretion of the committee. The discretion of according administrative sanction to these works will rest with the commissioner of the division. The works will ordinarily be carried out by the District Engineer; but in issuing orders and taking steps for supervision the committee will be guided by the Executive Engineer. For all major works, that is to say, projects costing over Rs. 5,000 the professional sanction of the Superintending Engineer must be obtained, as regards works costing over Rs. 5,000 the administrative sanction of the Government will be necessary, and the plans and estimates must be submitted to the Chief Engineer for professional sanction. With the duties which have hitherto devolved upon District Engineers and their subordinate staff in connection with Provincial and Imperial works the local committees will have no concern and the District Engineer will no longer be responsible for such works. The Department of Public Works will be entirely

relieved of the duty of erecting or doing repairs to provincial departmental buildings. except in special cases. The ordinary maintenance of Police and Jail buildings has already been entrusted to the Inspector-General of Police and of Prisons respectively. It is now announced that the ordinary repair of all ordinary revenue buildings, court-houses and of other similar buildings, will be made over to the Magistrate-Collector of the District. We agree with the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces in thinking that this mode of carrying out the repairs will be more satisfactory tr all concerned than the system at present in operation. The execution of heavy repairs to provincial buildings, the maintenance of provincial trunk lines of roads and the construction of provincial buildings and other provincial works will be made over entirely to Executive Engineers and their subordinate establishment. The most satisfactory feature in Sir George Couper's scheme for giving effect to the views of the Supreme Government in the direction of extending local Government, is the authority delegated to District Committees in connection with the maintenance and construction of local roads and buildings; but as the committees will be *jo hukum* committees, the authority will be exercised by the District Officer.

PUBLIC OPINION ON SIR ASHLEY EDEN.

NOW THAT Sir Ashley Eden has left India let us enquire what is the public opinion on him and on his administration. We know what the journals in opposition think and say of him. The *Englishman* in a long article reviewing his career says:

Five years and a half ago, when the question of Sir Richard Temple's successor was under consideration, this journal strongly advocated the appointment of Mr. Eden to the Lieutenant Governorship of Bengal. We were impelled to this course by no spirit of partizan predilection, and by no regard for individual interests. We were actuated by the simple desire that justice should be done to the province, and that Bengal should at length be ruled by one who was thoroughly acquainted with all its circumstances, with its advantages, and its wants. The result has amply established the soundness of our recommendation. Sir Ashley Eden leaves behind him to-day many a permanent record of a splendid success, and his name will live in the memory of the people as that of a ruler who, while he equally hated dogmatism and imposture, was able, by the sturdy fearless pursuance of a policy of honesty and common sense, to place Bengal in a position of prosperity and contentment which it had never before attained.

It was to mark their sense of these public and social qualities that all classes of the community met on Friday last. Such a meeting has never been held in Calcutta before. The last generation would have been sorely puzzled could they have witnessed that scene. A retiring Lieutenant Governor—the head of the official hierarchy—was the subject, not of the invective, but of the enthusiastic praise of Europeans and natives of every degree and of every calling. The Chief Justice of Bengal was in the chair, and among the proposers and seconders of resolutions, besides natives noble and common, were the president of the Chamber of Commerce, the master of the Trades' Association, one of the first advocates at the Bar, and a Roman Catholic Archbishop. And if it were asked whence arose this change of feeling and this unwonted unanimity of all races and creeds and classes, the answer would be the honesty, the fearlessness, and the genial nature of the man who leaves these shores to-day. His effigy in marble and on canvas will serve to recal his features to the present generation, and to teach them to the next. But a more lasting monument of his fame will be found in the prosperity of the province he ruled so well and in the affectionate remembrance of the people of Bengal.

The *Indian Daily News*, which is by no means friendly to Sir Ashley Eden, has the candour to say:

Sir Ashley Eden is a thorough Anglo-Indian in his power of work; he is practical-minded to a degree,quick to percieve and prompt to decide; with an intellect capable of turning from subject to subject without effort and without fatigue; and with the power of assimilating other men's experience Then, too, he has been trained to rule, and placed in positions where he could not but acquire vast and unusual stores of experience. It is only fair to say that few men who have come to India have turned these opportunities to better account, few men who have educated themselves so thoroughly up to their work, and fewer still who have worked so hard, so strenuously or so unceasingly. Sir Ashley Eden is one of the last of the Haileybury men and one of the greatest of those turned out by that most famous school. He has lived his life in Bengal, for his rule in Burmah was brilliant episode in his Bengal career, and he has left upon this province an impress second only to that left upon the Punjab by the Lawrences. If people will now carry back their recollection, they will find no name during the last twenty-five years so constantly associated with Bengal as that of Ashley Eden. Either as Secretary or as Lieutenant-Governor, he has had a large share in almost all the great movements in the Province during the last quarter of a century and he has contributed more than any other single man to the character of its administration, and we do not hesitate to say also to its present prosperity. If we go into the history of Bengal since the mutiny, we shall find no one figure to fill a space equal to that filled by Sir Ashley Eden.

The *Statesman*, likewise not partial to Sir Ashley Eden, writes much in the same strain:

The good service of thirty years with all the brave and wise and generous deeds he has done will be remembered when the narrower and coarser features of distinguished career will live only in the recollection of a few sufferers and their connexions, whose grievances will not easily be forgotten. Perhaps no man who has ever held positions of power in India has conferred so many personal obligations and balanced them so equally with personal injuries, as the late Lieutenant-Governor; and, so few men have had warmer personal friends or keener haters than he. But the enthusiastic voices of "friends and admirers" have so completely drowned every note of dissonance during the last few days, that a stranger might well suppose that Sir Ashley Eden had left behind him in Bengal none who did not love and honour him. Now the, immense popularity of which we have just had evidence so remarkable is due more to personal manners and conduct than to acts of administration, and so we are justified in assuming that a man who was so open to censure, must have had many virtues and graces of character which not only endeared him to friends and acquaintances, but caught the eye of the world and had their value at once acknowledged. We have no recollection of any departing ruler, whether Viceroy or Subordinate Governor, leaving India amid such a chorus of plaudits; and a man of whom this can be said at the close of thirty-years' career, during which he has never once been named as a popularity hunter, but has said and done many things calculated to give deep offence to persons and classes, must at least be owned to have had in him many qualities, thoroughly genuine, which men instinctively like and admire.

Familiarity it is said breeds contempt, so we will leave nearer critics, and go to distant ones. The *Tribune*, the best native paper in Northern India, published at Lahore, in a long article, in which both sides of Sir Ashley Eden's administration are critically examined, remarks:

If we have, so far, only spoken of Sir Ashley Eden's shortcomings and inconsistencies during his tenure of the Government of Bengal, it must not be supposed that we regard his five years' rule as a failure. On the contrary, we hold that the general tenor of his administration has been successful, though the results achieved have fallen very far short of the expectations formed of him. He has effected many important reforms in the various branches of the administration. Where he was not influenced by prejudice or passion he shewed that he was altogether a superior man, and that the happy-go-lucky style of managing things so popular with routine and average men, did not find any favour with him. The working of the Police attracted his attention at the beginning of his rule. He strongly denounced the habit of the Police to return hopeless or troublesome cases as false, and called upon Magistrates to put down this mode of proceeding. He clearly recognized that ignorance and dishonesty on the part of the Police are responsible for many failures of justice, and he mercilessly condemned an "indiscriminate crusade against persons said by the police to be bad characters," which had been so prevalent in Bengal and which still flourishes in the Upper Provinces, In reviewing the annual report on the working of thePolice for 1876,Sir Ashley Eden remarked that the figures contained therein clearly showed the extent of the injustice and oppression which had been occasioned by the prosecutions for bad livelihood, and he announced his determination "that this engine of oppression shall not be left uncontrolled in the hands of Police." It is needless to say that this determination was carried out, though, in doing so, Sir Ashley Eden had to overcome the opposition of a strong departmental head like Mr. James Monro. The Lieutenant-Governor also impressed upon District Superintendents of Police that their first duty was to see that their subordinates did not abuse their power by oppressing the people, and that this could only be effected by repeated and full inspection by the District Superintendent of his police stations and out-posts. Sir Ashley Eden was startled by the frightful increase in sickness and mortality among the Jail population of Bengal which had occurred in 1879, and he at once adopted vigorous measures to put a stop to it. The chief cause of this increase in sickness and mortality was the introduction of the reduced diet scale proposed by the Prison Conference recommended by the Government of India. This scale was quite insufficient for prisoners on hard labour. As soon as the defects of the new diet-scale were brought to his notice, Sir Ashley Eden sanctioned an extra allowance of food and issued new regulations restricting the hours for extra mural labour. These measures had a very marked and beneficial effect on the general health of the prisoners. Sir Ashley Eden had at first placed too much confidence in Dr. Lethbridge, the Inspector-General of Prisons in Bengal. But the large increase in punishments for Jail offences soon convinced him of the necessity of looking after the proceedings of the head of the Jail Department. In reviewing the Administration Report for 1879, the Lieutenant-Governor regarded the enormous increase in the number of cases in which corporal punishment was inflicted as unsatisfactory, and told the Inspector-General in plain terms to impress upon all Jail Superintendents the necessity of restricting the use of the lash to the worst cases. He declared that, if necessary, the power of the Superintendent to inflict whipping as a punishment would be restricted by more stringent rules than then existed. This warning, it is needless to say, had effect, and the number of flogging was greatly reduced. Sir Ashley Eden introduced reforms into the management of the hospitals in and around Calcutta; but in his anxiety to prevent waste and unnecessary expenditure he went a little too far. In so far as he insisted on rigid economy in the management of hospitals he had the support of all sensible and right-thinking persons. But it is a great pity that in effecting this reform he allowed his favourite, Dr. Payne, to sit upon the medical officers in charge of the Calcutta Hospitals Throughout his Indian career extending over thirty years, Sir Ashley Eden has been a warm supporter of the cause of education of all kinds. As Lieutenant-Governor he gave encouragement to primary education, to high education, to technical education and to female education. He increased the grant for primary education by two lakhs of rupees and developed the system introduced by Sir. George Campbell in 1872. Sir Ashley Eden deserves the gratitude of the people of Bengal for having given them the means of obtaining technical education by establishing the Sibpore Engineering College and founding two scholarships tenable at the Royal Agricultural College at Cirencister. The retiring Lieutenant-Governor has earned the gratitude of all friends of female education by raising the Bethune School to the status of a College in order to provide native ladies with facilities for obtaining University education by providing it with boarding arrangements. He also deserves great credit for the broad and statesmanlike spirit in which he dealt with the Eurasian education question. Sir Ashley Eden opposed most of the recommendations made by Archdeacon Baly and shewed that the State could not spend more money on Eurasian education without doing injustice to the other classes of the community. He gave encouragement to the diffusion of high education among the Mahomedan community though he rightly declined to raise the Calcutta Madrasa to the status of a college teaching up to the B.A. standard. The question of improving the judicial administration of Bengal occupied the careful consideration of the retiring Lieutenant-Governor. He increased the staff of Munsiffs and adopted two measures for the improvement of the judicial administration of the province.

The most important measure which Sir Ashley Eden elaborated for improving the judicial administration of his province was the well-known scheme of Appellate Benches, The disallowance of the scheme by the Secretary of State was a matter for deep regret. Sir Ashley Eden, during his tenure of the Government of Bengal, took some steps in the direction of extending the employment of Natives in the public service. Besides an increase in the number of Munsiffs, he added 31 Deputy Magistrates to the Subordinate Executive Service. He appointed a Native judicial officer to the District Judgeship of Bankura. He increased the pay of Canoongoes. He threw open to Uncovenanted officers some posts which had been reserved for the members of the Civil Service. Under him the two Inspectorships of Registration and some of the Assistant-Commissionerships in the non-regulation districts were bestowed upon Uncovenanted officers. Sir Ashley Eden's administration of the Provincial finances of Bengal was remarkably successful. During his five years' rule Sir Ashley Eden thus spent 77½ lakhs of rupees on great measures of material improvement in addition to the expenditure on ordinary public works, which as we have shown above, was increased by 250 per cent. The financial and public works policy of the retiring Lieutenant-Governor has earned for him the lasting gratitude of the people of Bengal. He exposed the real working of the License-tax, and said in plain and emphatic terms that the machinery for the proper administration of a direct impost does not exist in this country.

But *the* measure for which Sir Ashley Eden's name will be cherished in grateful recollection by the great mass of the people is his Rent Bill. Although he could not have the satisfaction of seeing the Bill carried through the Legislative Council before his departure from the country, it will ever be associated with his name. Sir Ashley Eden's name will be remembered in Behar chiefly for the recognition of the Hindi—the vernacular of the people— as the official language of the province, but this important reform was marred by one defect. The Government of Bengal conceived the idea of revising the *Kaithi* alphabet and the idea was duly carried. For his friendly mediation in the big Dacca and Ticcari cases which, if carried on to the last stage, would have almost ruined those families. Sir Ashley Eden's name will be gratefully remembered by the aristocracy of the Lower Provinces. As President of the Army Commission, the retiring Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal rendered valuable services to the Empire. For his remarkably frank utterances on the effect of the partial repeal of the Cotton Duties carried by Lord Lytton and Sir John Strachey, Sir Ashley deserves great commendation. With characteristic courage and independence he showed that the system introduced by the late Government of India it was impossible to work in practice with any thing like fairness, and he advocated the reimposition of the repealed portion of the Cotton Duties. That the results achieved by the retiring Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal have fallen far short of the expectations formed of him when he was raised to the Belvedere *masnad*, cannot be denied even by his warmest friends and admirers. At the same time it must be admitted that he has left his mark on the Povince he has so vigorously ruled for five years, and that his administration, judged by the standard prevailing in Anglo-Indis, must be pronounced a great—nay, a brilliant success.

The *Indian Spectator*, which as our reader is aware is published at Bombay, and which is by no means a dittoing paper, has the following:

The last issue of the *Hindu Patriot* contains an elaborate and highly appreciative notice of the career of the retiring Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. It stands out in marked contrast with the careers of the two other Lieutenant-Governors who have just retired. It is now acknowledged on all hands that Sir Ashley Eden has throughout his distinguished public life proved himself an administrator of quite a different stamp from the run of ordinary civilians. He has been all throughout in sympathy with the people. Again, he has been very plain and outspoken in his thoughts. His staunch advocacy of the Indigo ryots in the earlier days of his official life will ever remain as one of his most honourable acts. For railway speed legislation he had the greatest horror; still the Rent Bill will be a monument of his warm sympathy and solicitude for the Bengal peasantry. In the management of the finances of the rich province he was called upon to rule during the last five years he has also proved an adept. Our Bengal contemporary has a better opinion of his financial abilities than those of Sir John Strachey. We heartily concur in the general estimate of the career of Sir Ashley Eden as described in the columns of the *Patriot* despite the ranting of the never-to-be-contented *Amrita Bazar Patrika*. The colours in the picture are well laid out. No doubt there are shades. But these are kept in the back ground. Sir Ashley's good deeds are many; his blunders few. They are like the spots on the sun. Such is the Bengal sun whose time has come to set on the Indian horizon. And our Bengali friends have been busy last week paying him that hero worship which is his due. We wish a long and useful life to Sir Ashley Eden in his native clime.

Again:

The Eden fever is at its height this week. Marriage, elopement, death, dinner, and a thousand other interests that

usually agitate Baboodom have, for the nonce, merged themselves into one grand interest, the L. G. The L. G. has been treated by all classes and almost all parties. On Friday he was orated upon by the adjectival Baboos, Maharajas, Rajas and other landlubbers of Bengal had a public meeting in His Honor's honor. But the young lions of Baboodom did not join this meeting. They, on the contrary, lashed their tails in mad fury, snorting, spouting, and spitting their spite on the entire movement. Our contemporary the *Bengalee* is supposed to be the leader of the discontented band, of course, under inspiration from the recluse of *Amrita Bazar* who is engaged in penances and fasts for the sins of Eden-worshippers. But the never-to-be-contented party has been dispersed by the veteran of the *Patriot*, who though under physical discomfort, indites an elaborate and eloquent article on the subject.

The *Bombay Chronicle*, another Native paper of Bombay, says:

Sir Ashley Eden.—We are gratified to learn that the retiring Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal has got due acknowledgement of his long and meritorious services in the behalf of this country. It will be gratifying to Sir Ashley Eden to be convinced, if any proof of such conviction were wanted by His Honor, that in spite of all that ignorant public censors and carping spirits here and there might say or do, the common-sense of the great body of intelligent and thoughtful people in India do not fail to appreciate aright the worth and merit of public servants. The Bengalees have just shown that such is the case. A large and influential meeting of all classes of the community held in Calcutta on the 21st instant, voted, according to the correspondent of the *Bombay Gazette*, an address and also a marble statue to Sir Ashley Eden; a resolution embodying the same was enthusiastically carried. Well done Bengalis, Sir Ashley Eden has well earned and eminently deserved such public acknowledgments and honors.

Allen's Indian Mail, which is edited by no less an authority than the late Press Commissioner, has the following remarks:

The progress of Burma during the time that Sir Ashley Eden was at the head of that province was extraordinary; but the advance made by Bengal under his lieutenant-governorship has, we believe, been even more astonishing, and even more directly attributable to the care with which it has been administered. In every department of the State his energy has been apparent. Whilst primary education has been actually doubled alike in volume and in quality, the colleges and high-class schools of the Province have more than held their ground. The most far-reaching reforms have been carried out in the gaols and the hospitals. roads, railways, and useful public works of all kinds have been pushed on with vigour; and *pari passu* with all their visible activity, valueable enquiries have been carried through, which will surely guide the steps of future administrators and ameliorate the condition of the people. Perhaps the most characteristic feature of Sir Ashley Eden's Indian career has been the inflexible honesty of purpose and the resolute courage with which he has formed his opinions and carried them into effect, absolutely regardless of the popularity or the unpopularity they might involve, and it is therefore, not a little remarkable—and it it certainly not a little creditable to the discernment of the people of Bengal—that from the time of the "indigo rows" down to the present day, no other officer of Government has secured and retained in an equal degree the affection of the people at large. Such a character and such a career offer an assurance of the highest usefulness in the place so long and so honourably filled by Sir Erskine Perry.

We have not space for more extracts. We hope we have given enough to convey to the reader a fair idea of the general estimate of Sir Ashley Eden's administration.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR leaves for Darjeeling on Wednesday next at 5-30 P. M. The following time-bill gives the programme of the journey:

		P.	M.
Sealdah	Dep.	5	30
Damookdea...	Arr,	9	0
	Dinner.		
Sara	Dep.	10	0
		A.	M.
Silligori	Arr.	6	30
	Dep.	7	0
Teenadori	Arr.	9	50
	Dep.	10	15
		P.	M.
Darjeeling	Arr,	2	0

THE PARTING scene of Sir Ashley Eden was certainly the most remarkable of all the movements made to do him honor. Uninvited by any body, his friends and admirers gathered by hundreds on the river-bank an hour before his departure to shake hands with him and to bid him good-bye. There were present European ladies and gentlemen and native noblemen and gentlemen from all parts of the country, throwing off for the moment all distinctions of rank, and making a rush to have the last look of one, whom they held in such high esteem. The crowd was so great that many gentlemen could hardly make their way to shake hands with Sir Ashley—they were obliged to wish him good-bye from the land when he appeared on the deck. The scene was both exciting and affecting. Sir Ashley Eden seemed to be visibly affected. We wish those who question the genuineness of public feeling regarding Sir Ashley Eden had been present at this scene—for we feel confident that even they would have been moved by it. There was one incident on the occasion which few who were present and witnessed it will forget. At the last moment Sir Ashley Eden sent for Mr. Percy, the Superintendent of Police, and thanked him for the good and meritorious services rendered by him. This graceful act made a deep impression upon the assembly. Thus amid the valedictory words and with the good wishes of a large company of Europeans and Natives, Sir Ashley Eden, sighing and salaming, left the scene of his labours, where he had worked for thirty years with so much zeal and success.

WE HAVE RECEIVED the names of the following subscribers to the Eden Memorial since our last:—

		Rs.	
Amount already acknowledged ...	...	16,020	
H. H. the Nawab Bahadur of Moorshedabad...		500	
Maharaja Rajendra Kishore Singh of Bettiah...		1,000	
Maharaj-Kumar Harendra Kishore of Bettia...		500	
Hon'ble Maharaja Jotendra Mohun Tagore Bahadur C. S. I.		2,000	
Maharaja Komul Krishna Bahadur	...	1,000	
Maharaja Narendra Krishna Bahadur	...	100	
Raja Ramnarain Singh Bahadur of Khyra, Monghyr	...	200	paid
Nawab Abdul Lutief Khan Bahadur	...	100	
Babu Chunder Mohun Chatterjee	..	100	paid
Total	...	21,520	

THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR leaves Calcutta for Darjeeling on next Wednesday. His Honor will probably descend to the plains in July next. He will visit Eastern Bengal first. The question of the Dacca-Mymensing Railway awaits decision, and this is one of the first measures, which His Honor will take in hand. We believe the Rothschilds are not very keen about this Railway, and so this project will be taken in hand as a State undertaking. Mr. Thompson seems to be in favour of light railways for small distances, and we believe he will direct his special attention to this subject. If after visiting East Bengal, His Honor has time he will proceed to Behar.

WE HAVE always been of opinion that the *ticcadari* system of provincial finance is open to serious objections, because it does not give the local Governments the benefit of their own good management. We all know how energetically and successfully Sir Ashley Eden managed the Bengal finances, but we are sorry to learn that the fruits of his good management will be snatched away by the Government of India, Mr. Thompson has been told that his contract should begin at the point of the improvements at which Sir Ashley Eden has left the provincial finances of Bengal. This is very hard. It cannot be expected that the provincial finance should shew the same elasticity from year to year that it has shewn at the beginning. We are rather surprised that such an honest and considerate Finance Minister as Major Baring should insist upon such an illiberal measure.

A VETERAN INDIAN STATESMAN has passed away! Sir Erskin Perry is dead. He began life as a Barrister, then became Chief Justice of the Bombay Supreme Court, afterwards a member of the Court of Directors, and latterly a member of the Indian Council. He made India his special study and the good of India his special aim. Possessed of great natural abilities, high culture, rare breadth of mind, generous sympathies, and fearless independence, he was a valiant champion of India, and his death leaves a void, which we fear cannot easily be filled up.

WE HAVE received several letters enquiring of those cases, in which Sir Ashley Eden did not deal with the officers concerned in the same spirit in which he dealt with Mr. Mosley and Mr. Sharp. Of course we do not know all the cases, but we will mention a few. Mr. Mosley when he was at Maldah was hauled over the coals for his high-handed proceedings. Mr. Westmacott when he was in Dinagepore received more than one sharp wigging for arbitrary and capricious proceedings. Mr. Wells, late Magistrate of 24-Pergunnahs, was denied promotion to the office of Commissioner for his doings at Arrah and Rajshahye. Mr. Barton, Magistrate of Jessore, had his promotion twice stopped for committing some grave irregularities. We know how Mr. Stevens, though a good man and an otherwise efficient officer, has suffered in connection with the Nuddea Road Cess defalcation case. Perhaps the case of Mr. Cooke, then Magistrate of Balasore, who by his rough temper drove Kumar Baikuntnath Dey to resignation, may be yet fresh in the recollection of the reader. Will Mr. Cooke ever forget it? The Suburban Commissioners know what a rebuff was given to Mr. H. S. Beadon, when Magistrate of 24-Pergunnahs, when he supported certain proceedings of Mr. Sterndale, Vice-Chairman of the Suburban Municipality. Mr. Lee, late of the 24-Pergunnahs, we believe was twice brought to book for display of temper. The case of Mr. Campbell of Burrisal is too well known to require recapitulation. Mr. Porch, now at Maldah, came in for his share for certain irregularities. The censure passed upon the late Mr. Magrath was one, which few Civilians had ever had the misfortune of receiving. Mr. Toynbee we believe will never forget the lesson, which was taught to him in connection with Col. Hedayut Ali's case. But we need not multiply instances. We hope the number of cases we have given bears out our assertion that the decisions in the cases of Mr. Mosley and Mr. Sharp were not typical. Even as regards Mr. Sharp we hear that he received a confidential communication in which he was strongly censured for want of tact and judgment, in the Bogra Sankirtun case. The truth is—Sir Ashley Eden was a strict disciplinarian, and he enforced discipline among both European and Native, Covenanted and Uncovenanted, officers with an impartial hand. Of course he did not like to publish the censures, because he justly held that a public exhibition of the offenders would destroy their self-respect and consequently their efficiency.

WILL THE HIGH COURT or the Bengal Government pay no heed to the petition of the poor plucked candidates for the junior pleadership examination? The New Rules have been introduced without giving them a single chance for coming in under the old rules. This is the only instance in which such a summary step has been taken by introducing a new order of things. They have petitioned both the High Court and the Bengal Government, but both seem to be deaf. Surely Sir Richard Garth, as the Minister of Justice, will not refuse to do justice to these poor youths by looking into their petition and redressing their grievance.

WE ARE exceedingly sorry to learn that Mr. Justice White is about to resign his seat on the bench of the High Court. Able and painstaking, thoroughly conscientious and high-minded, he is respected alike by the suitors, the bar and the profession. His independence of character is, indeed, his highest recommendation. It is a pity that such a Judge is about to leave us so soon.

MR. PIGOT, acting Advocate-General, Bombay, has been appointed by the Secretary of State to act for Mr. Justice Pontifex. We have no just cause to resent this appointment, when no senior member of the Calcutta bar would for obvious reasons accept it.

THE APPOINTMENT of Mr. Scott to the Bombay High Court is a mystery. Not only have deserving members of the local bar and the local judicial service been overlooked, but the claims of the officiating Native Judge of the High Court have been set aside. The last is the most unaccountable oversight. Here was a native gentleman, who had been officiating off and on as a Judge of the High Court for several years, and given good satisfaction, and surely such a man should not have been superseded by a political hanger-on.

WE ARE glad to notice that the Maharaja of Durbhanga has offered ten gold medals for distribution to successful students of the Patna Division, who passed the several examinations of the Calcutta University in 1881-82, that is to say:—Three to be given to the most successful candidates from the Patna Division at the M.A., B.A., and F.A. Examinations. One to be given to the candidates who passed first at the Entrance Examination from the Patna Division. Six to be given to the candidates who passed first at the Entrance Examination from the remaining six districts of the division, one for each. The thanks of the Lieutenant-Governor have been conveyed to the Maharaja for his liberality.

WE STATED last week that the Government of India has given its decision against Mr. O'Donnell. We understand that the matter was first referred to the High Court, which proceeding upon the report of Mr. Peacock has pronounced the *kaifathi* system adopted by Mr. O'Donnell to be illegal and subversive of the ends of justice. The Governor General in Council also justifies the degradation of Mr. O'Donnell from the rank of Joint-Magistrate to that of Assistant Magistrate.

THE FOLLOWING conversation took place in the House of Commons on the subject of the salaries of High Courts Judges in India:

Mr. Pugh asked the Secretary of State for India whether he had had an opportunity of considering the many representations that had been made to him from India, with reference to the reduction of the salaries of the High Court Judges in Bengal, proposed by his predecessor in office; and whether he had arrived at any decision as to the expediency or otherwise of enforcing such reduction. The Marquis of Hartington: I have very carefully considered in Council such representations as I have received on the subject, and have arrived at the decision that the resolution referred to, so far as it equalises the salaries of the Puisne Judges of all the High Courts, should be enforced—that is to say, that the Puisne Judges hereafter appointed to the Calcutta High Court shall not in future receive larger salaries than the Puisne Judges of the Bombay and other High Courts. There is, however, a small question still unsettled as to the precise amount at which the salaries of all Puisne Judges are to be fixed.

We should like to know whether this "small question" has by this time been settled.

SO THE Calcutta Corporation has given its sanction to the Tramway Company of the use of steam for the Chowringhi line experimentally for a month. We do not think the Corporation is competent under the law to sanction an experiment of this kind. Sanction once given cannot be revoked. We think there was much weight in what Mr. Hart said. He remarked: "In a conversation he had had with Mr. R. Souttar, that gentleman, in answer to a question put to him, stated that a steam car could be brought to a sudden stand-still within 8 or 9 feet, but that if this were done all the passengers would be thrown off their seats." If this should be the case, then the use of steam would not be safe for passengers. Besides, private carriages, it is feared, will come to grief from spirited horses shying at the sight of the iron horse. Only last Saturday we hear there was a serious collision between the carriage of Babu Nundolal Mullick and a tram car; the carriage was smashed and the Babu had a narrow escape with his life. What would have been the fate of the Babu, if his carriage had collided with a steam engine? We hope the Lieutenant-Governor will take into consideration the points noted above before according his sanction. Tomorrow morning His Honor will make a trial trip with steam in company with the Commissioners.

WE HAVE much pleasure in giving a prominent insertion to the following letter from Maharani Shurnomoyee:

No. 215.

From—Maharanee Surnomoyee, Member of the Imperial Order of the Crown of India, Cossimbazar.

To—The Hon'ble Kristodas Pal, Rai Bahadur, C.I.E. Calcutta.

SIR,—In acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 29th March last which was personally presented to me by your friend Mr. B. M. Malabari, a gentleman of no ordinary worth, I have great pleasure in enclosing a remittance for Rs. 1,000 as my donation in aid of the work he has taken in hand. The translation which he proposes to make in several indigenous languages of the Hibbert Lectures of Max Muller will, when completened prove beyond question, a blessing to the enlighted world. I shall thank you to make him over the humble gift and while doing so to assure him that I highly appreciate his literary labours and admire not the less the singularity of his energy. I feel almost convinced that such unremitting perseverence can never go unrewarded.

Wishing him sincerely every success in his laudable undertaking and requesting acknowldgement.

Yours faithfully,

MAHARANEE SURNOMOYEE,

Cossimbazar Rajbati, 24th April 1882.

We thank the Maharani for the generous support she has given to Mr. Malabari's laudable project. We hope her example will not be lost upon other wealthy and public-spirited native gentlemen, who appreciate literature and cherish a love for their own country.

WE HEAR that Surgeon-Major R. C. Chundra, Professor of Materia Medica at the Medical College, is about to take furlough, and that he does not intend to return to the service. This chair we believe has been filled up successively by two Native members of the Indian Medical Service for upwards of 20 years, we mean Drs. Chuckerbutty and Chandra. To the credit of Sir R. Temple it should be remembered that when Dr. Chuckerbutty died, he offered the appointment to Dr. Chandra, the senior native member of the Service—notwithstanding the fact that a young European Surgeon who was acting temporarily for Dr. Chuckerbutty had been strongly backed by the then Principal of the College, and also, we believe, by the Medical Department. The appointment of Dr. Chandra as might be expected gave great satisfaction to the native public. There are now some 15 native gentlemen in the Covenanted Medical Service, one being aSurgeon-Major of fourteen years' standing, and the rest are Surgeons of ten years and under. We hope the rumour is not true that it is intended to snatch away this appointment from the native members of the service. The Government has repeatedly promised that when natives are fit for particular offices, their inherent right to such offices should be recognized. The appointment in question had been for the last twenty years held by natives, and it cannot be pretended that there are not men among the native members of the service, fit to fill the office. To withhold it from them would be to cast an unmerited slur upon them.

AS WE had announced before Sir George Campbell raised the question of the Assam Emigration Bill in the House of Commons. The following conversation took place between him and Lord Hartington:

April 3.—Sir G. Campbell asked the Secretary of State for India whether he had yet decided what course to pursue in regard to an Act of the Indian Legislature, extending the term for tea laborers under the special and penal law from three to five years.

Lord Hartington in reply said: As I have already stated, this Act and the documents relating to it have received very careful consideration in the Council of India. The Bill attracted my attention while it was under discussion in Council, and I stated, that, considering the unhealthiness of some parts of Assam, and the high rate of mortality which prevailed among the coolies in that province, it appeared to me that great caution was necessary in the legislating on the subject and that unless the Governor-General entertained a very strong opinion in favour of extending the maximum period for which a contract of labour enforced by penalties might be entered into, I was inclined to think that it would not be expedient to enlarge the period from three to five years. The Act has however, been passed in its original form. Although I am assured by the Government of India that the death-rate in Assam has fallen, and that the healthiness of the province has improved, and is likely to improve, I cannot say that my doubts as to this clause have been altogether removed. As the measure, however, contains many provisions likely to be beneficial to the native labourer, as well as to the planter, and as it is already in operation, I am on the whole unwilling to advise her Majesty to disallow it, and my honorable friend is aware that I have no power to alter the Act, or to disallow a particular clause. I have, however, thought it necessary to direct the Government of India to furnish me, at the close of every year from the time of its coming into operation, with a return of the number of persons suffering criminal punishment for breach of contract under this law; and that, at the end of three years, the Secretary of State may receive a special report on the working of the Act, with a view to considering the possibility of abandoning all exceptional legislation respecting contracts of labour in the Indian tea districts.

It will be seen from the above that Lord Hartington does not sympathize with the Bill, but has not interfered with it out of deference for the Viceroy. As to how far the Bill will benefit the labourer we think we made this point clear enough in our articles on the Bill, and will not therefore repeat what we have already said on the subject. It is to be deeply regretted that such an iniquitous Bill is allowed to soil the statute-book solely from personal considerations.

MYMENSING has voted an address to Sir Ashley Eden. It is the *Niti Sobha* of Sherepore, which has acted as the exponent of the district on this occasion. The address is signed by some of the leading zemindars of the district, by the editor of the *Charu Barta*, and other educated native gentlemen. We give the following extracts from this address:

Under your liberal and vigorous administration, the newly instituted Decentralization's Scheme has proved a complete success in Bengal. The Revenue of Bengal has increased by one crore of rupees, and its Finance has been placed on a perfectly sound and safe basis.

The liberal policy which your Honor has inaugurated in the Public Works Department, the great works of public utility which came into existence during your Honor's incumbency, shall always mark an era in the history of the material improvement of Bengal. New Railway lines and Canals have been opened, substantial masonry Court Houses, Jails, Schools, Colleges and Hospitals have been built; native trade has received a new impetus; education has made a most hopeful and rapid progress; signs of prosperity are visible on every side, and Bengal can now confidently hope for a bright future looming in the distance.

We have been requested to forward the Address to Sir Ashley Eden, and it affords us much pleasure in complying with the request of the *Sabha*.

THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA has published a very important Resolution based on the report of the Army Commission of 1880 presided over by Sir Ashley Eden. Under the organisation now to be adopted, every Native cavalry regiment (except the four regiments of Madras Native cavalry, whose establishment will remain unaltered) will consist, as at present, of six troops organised in three squadrons, each regiment having the following establishment:—

3 Ressaldars,
3 Ressaidars.
1 Woordie-Major
6 Jamadars,
6 Kote-Duffadars,
48 Duffadars (including 1 Farrier-Major and 1 Salootries.)
6 Trumpeters,
447 Privates (including 1 Assistant Salootrie and 6 Farriers.)

In the Bombay cavalry the present establishment of commissioned and non-commissioned ranks will remain unaltered at 80, the privates being raised to 470 in number instead of to 477, the total strength in Bengal and Bombay being thus 550 of all ranks. The establishment of the Cavalry of the Corps of Guides (Queen's Own) will remain unaltered.

The present and future establishments of the Indian Army will be as follows:—

	Present Estabt	New Estabt.
Cavalry.—		
Bengal (excluding Cavalry of the Corps Guides) ...	24	21
Madras	4	4
Bombay	7	6
	35	31
Infantry—		
Bengal (including Infantry of the Corps of Guides)	61	55
Madras	40	32
Bombay	30	26
	131	113
Total ...	166	144

In the Bengal Presidency the following are the regiments selected for reduction:—

Cavalry.	*Infantry.*
16th Cavalry	34th Native Infantry
17th ,,	35th ,, ,,
4th Punjab Cavalry	36th ,, ,,
	37th ,, ,,
	41st ,, ,,
	3rd Punjab Infantry.

The following regiments of the Madras and Bombay armies have been selected by the Governments of those Presidencies respectively for reduction :—

Madras Army.	*Bombay Army.*
The 34th Native Infantry	The 3rd Sind Horse
The 35th do do	The 6th Native Infantry
The 36th do do	The 11th do do
The 37th do do	The 15th do do
The 38th do do	The 18th do do
The 39th do do	
The 40th do do	
The 41st do do	

The money results of these reductions and reforms are not stated. We hope the saving will be substantial.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN GENERAL DEBILITY AND EMACIATION.—In cases of Debility and Emaciation, the powerful curative influence of Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is graphically described by Sir Henry Marsh, Bart, M.D, Physician in Ordinary to the Queen in Ireland, who, after extensive use, strongly recommended this preparation, and observed :—"I have frequently prescribed Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil. I consider it to be a very pure Oil, not likely to create disgust, and a therapeutic agent of great value." This eminent Physician remarks: "With strumous and emaciated subject, and where the general health is impaired, this remedy tells with peculiar efficacy. The reviving and reanimating effects of a regular daily course of this animal Oil are highly satisfactory. Its favourable action on the system is renovating; it checks progressive emaciation, restores the yielding health, rebuilds, as it were, the tottering frame, and brings about a most remarkable and salutary change in all the vital functions." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints, and quarts with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the label under wrapper, by all chemists, druggists and store-keepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford and Co., 77, Strand, London.

COMMERCIAL.

(FROM OUR COMMERCIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Saturday, 29th April, 1882.

The aspect of our commercial affairs has somewhat been better and manifestations for a revival of business were apparent in some of the markets, but a fair progress has very much been retarded for want of financial facilities.

Piece-Goods.—There has been a revival in this trade and a fair amount of business done, chiefly in Grey descriptions viz. T. Cloth, Shirtings and Jaconets, Turkey Reds and White Mull Mulls and Jaconets have also found buyers but to a lesser extent, prices continued much the same as before.

Yarns.—Import 40s. were in fair request at slightly improved rates, whilst country productions experienced difficulty to find buyers even at reduced prices. This market will be closed during the next week on account of the annual festivities got up by the dealers in Yarn.

Exports.—Have attracted notice and there were transactions in all seeds and wheat chiefly for forward delivery in May and June, prices have slightly advanced.

Rice.—Limited transactions for the country trade without any change in prices which have rather a lower tendency. Stocks are heavy.

MONETARY.

Money still continue to be stringent as the demand for trade is affecting the resources of the Bank and thereby preventing the formation of a reasonable surplus to enable the Bank to reduce its rates of interest and discount without which commercial affairs will not improve.

GOVT. SECURITIES

Have rather been in less request and transactions were confined within narrow limits, rates did not much fluctuate during the period and were at the close as follows :—

4 per cent, 101-8 and 4½ per cent. 108-6 to 8-8.

JOINT-STOCK SHARES.

There was a good demand for some of the Tea stocks and I. G. S. prices for which have been rapidly advancing.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS.	Rs.	As.	P.
Kollapore Native Library	13	4	0
Lalla Sivaram, Lahore	20	0	0
Secretary Bibigunge Reading Club	3	5	0
Baboo Kally Prosunno Mookerjee, Narrail	5	0	0
,, Jodoo Nath Bose, Chooadangah	6	10	0
,, Sibesaur Persad, Duibhanga	5	0	0
,, Dwarka Nath Mookerjee, Bhowanypore	6	0	0
,, Peary Mohun Banerjee, Palamow	13	4	0
,, Gunga Narain Sookool, Hooghly	6	10	0
,, Sree Krishna Das, Ghoramara	5	0	0
,, Jattra Mohun Das, Chittagong	13	4	0
,, Poresh Nath Sookool, Krishnagore	6	10	0
,, Sooronath Chowdry, Echapore	13	4	0
,, Kally Mohun Dey, Cachar	10	0	0
,, Gopal Chunder Ghose, Chatmohur	6	10	0

Advertisements.

A LECTURE IN REPLY TO THE QUESTION "WHAT IS BRAHMOISM?"

BY RAJNARAIN BOSE.

The first half of this lecture published in England under the title of "The Hindu Theists' Brother of Gift to English Theist," has received high encomea from the Press in that country. See Hindoo Patriot, 2nd January, 1882.

To be had at the Adi, Brahmo Samaj Library, Calcutta. Price 4 annas, postage ½ anna.

BENGAL BONDED WAREHOUSE ASSOCIATION.

In conformity with Section 5 of Act V of 1854 a General Meeting of Proprietors will be held on Wednesday the 10th instant, at noon, for the inspection of Accounts for the half-year ended 30th April last, the declaration of a dividend, the election of Directors in the room of Mr. John Morison, who has proceeded to England, of Mr. Charles H. Moore, who has resigned in consequence of approaching departure for Europe and of the Honorable Durgachurn Law, who goes out by rotation but offers himself for re-election; and the transaction of any other business that may be brought forward.

Calcutta, 1st May 1882. H. W. I. WOOD, *Secretary.*

NEW TESTIMONIALS
ON THE EFFICACY OF THE MEDICINE OF

GRIMAULT AND CO.
PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMISTS.
PARIS: 8, RUE VIVIENNE, 8, PARIS.

DISEASES OF THE CHEST CURED.

—Eight patients affected with Phthisis pulmonalis in its first stage, treated by GRIMAULT'S SYRUP OF HYPOPHOSPHITE OF LIME during a period varying between six weeks and four months, are so well recovered at the present time that there is no possibility to witness the presence of tubercles in their lungs; the cure reckons now two years.—*Vienna Medical Gazette*, Austria.

GRIMAULT & CO.'S MATICO CAPSULES AND INJECTION.

—Renowned Physicians prescribe GRIMAULT'S MATICO as most active and at the same time the most inoffensive remedy in the treatment of ACUTE and CHRONIC DISEASES. It has not, like COPAIBA, the inconvenience of giving NAUSEAS. The injection is used in recent, and the Capsules in the more chronic cases.

TO YOUNG MOTHERS.

—My breasts were losing daily the allowance required to nurse my baby, who was falling away by the eye, and I found myself in the sad alternative either of weaning him at a season too dangerous for health, or see him dwindling away from want of food. On this emergency I heard of DUSART'S SYRUP OF LACTOPHOSPHATE OF LIME which I took. What was not my delight seeing in a short time my breast restored to a plentiful secretion, and my baby improve in strength and health. I owe this public testimony to the inventor of this precious medicine.

MRS. LROUNE, Winchester.

ASTHMA CURED.

For a long time past I was suffering from the *breathing organs*, when the idea occurred to me of using GRIMAULT & CO.'S INDIAN CIGARETTES, which procured me so great a relief that they have become indispensable to my existence.

S. SANTIAGO, Malaga,

SICK HEADACHE! NEURALGIA!

Grimault & Co.'s Guarana owes its curative virtues to the great quantity of Caffein which it contains. Dr. Wilks, of the Guy's Hospital, declares in the *British Medical Journal* that the GUARANA acts "like a charm."

Guarana powders are certain remedy for the *sick headache*, —The *Lancet*, Aug. 31st, 1872.

Beware of counterfeits! The genuine preparations of GRIMAULT & CO., bear a Stamp with their Trade Mark and the Seal of the Government.

Beware of counterfeits! The genuine preparations of GRIMAULT & Co. bear a stamp with their Trade Mark and the seal of the French Government.

Agents—BATHGATE & CO., SMITH STANISTREET, & CO., BONNERJEE & Co., and NOBIN CHUNDER DAW & SONS calcutta; TREACHER & CO Bombay; BARRIE & CO., MADON & CO., and NOTT & CO., Madras; PLOWER & CO., Lahore; PEAKE, ALLEN & CO., Lucknow; RIGGS & CO., Bangalore.

Wanted for the Bhugulpore Municipality a competent Draftsman who is also able to level accurately, probable time of employment 6 months, salary 60 to 80 Rs a month according to qualifications.

Apply to T. E. Owen, Divisional Superintendent, Bhagulpore, for the Municipality.

Notice.

LICENSES ON PROFESSIONS, TRADES AND CALLINGS.

NOTICE is hereby given that in accordance with Sections 4 and 5 of Act I of 1882 (B. C.) all persons who have already taken out their licenses for the year 1882, will be required immediately on the expiration of the term of their licenses to pay into the office of the Corporation 25 per centum in excess of the amount of the said licenses according to the respective classes in which they have been assessed and such licenses will therefore continue in force up to the 31st March 1883, after which another yearly license will have to be taken out for the year 1st April 1883 to 31st March 1884.

All persons, however, who have not as yet taken out their licenses for the year 1882 are required by law to pay the said 25 per centum in excess on taking out their license whereupon they will obtain fifteen monthly licenses expiring on the 31st March 1883. Parties failing to take out licenses accordingly will be prosecuted according to law.

NABOGOPAL MITTER,
License Officer to the Corporation,
Town of Calcutta.

LICENSES FOR CARRIAGES AND HORSES, CARTS AND SHED REGISTRATION.

NOTICE is hereby given that in accordance with Sections 4 and 5 of Act I of 1882 (B. C.) all persons who have already taken out their licenses for the 1st half-year of 1882, will be required immediately on the expiration of the term of their licenses, to pay into the office of the Corporation fifty per centum in excess of the amount of the said licenses according to their respective assessment and such licenses will thereupon continue in force up to the 30th September 1882, after which another half-yearly license will have to be taken out for the half year 1st October, 1882 to 31st March, 1883.

All persons, however, who have not as yet taken out their licenses for the first half-year of 1882, are required by law to pay the said fifty per centum in excess, on taking out their license whereupon they will obtain nine monthly licenses expiring on the 30th September 1882.

Parties failing to take out licenses accordingly will be prosecuted according to law.

NABOGOPAL MITTRA,
License Officer to the Corporation,
Town of Calcutta.

THE ORIGINAL HARDWARE ESTABLISHMENT OF INDIA.

T. E. THOMSON & CO.

9, Esplanade Row, Calcutta.

PLAIN WROUGHT-IRON SAFES,

FITTED WITH PATENT LOCKS AND DUPLICATE KEYS.

Length.		Breadth.		Depth.		
15	×	10	×	8½	Rs.	47
18	×	12	×	11	,,	55
20	×	14	×	12	,,	60
22	×	16	×	14	,,	65
24	×	18	×	15	,,	75
26	×	19	×	17	,,	80
28	×	20	×	18	,,	85
30	×	21	×	20	,,	90
32	×	22	×	21	,,	105
34	×	23	×	23	,,	115
36	×	24	×	24	,,	125

The above Safes are manufactured to our express order, and are admirably adapted for holding large quantities of Silver. Where extra security is required, we fit round them strong iron bands with hasps and staples for Chubb's Patent Detector Padlocks, the charge for which varies according to size of Safe, as under.

	15,	18,	20,	22,	24,	26,	28,	30,	32,	34,	36	inch.
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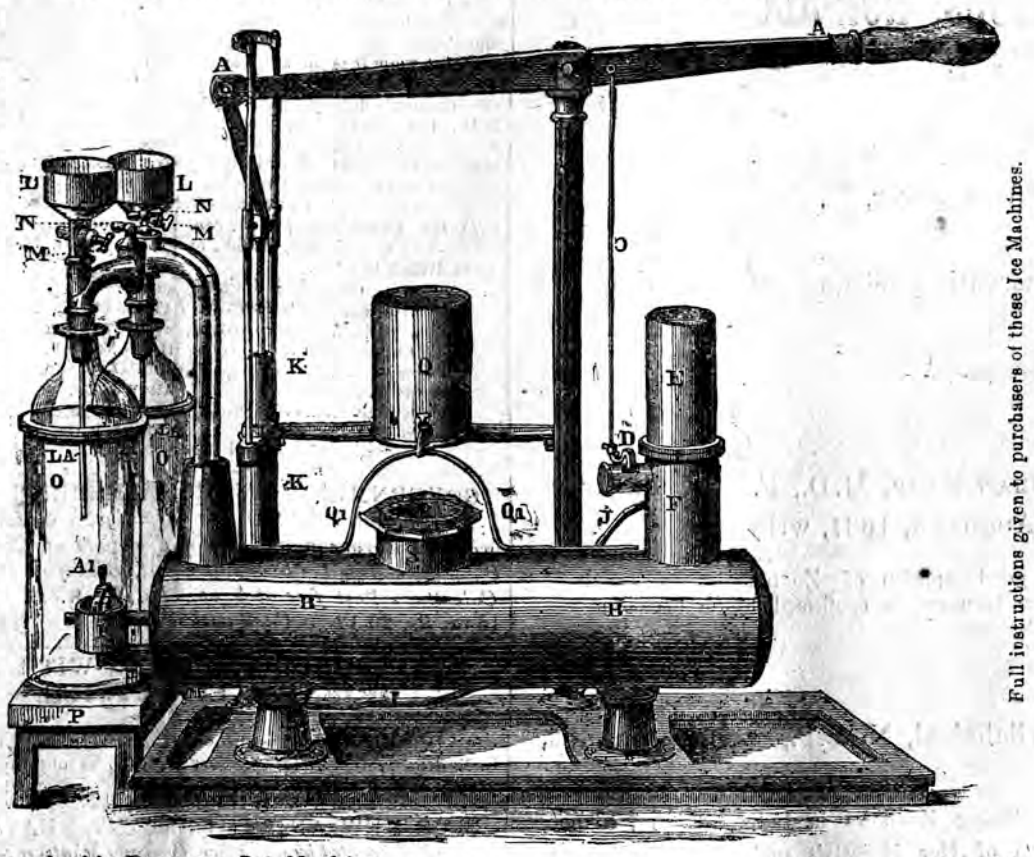

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